

Oral Questions

retention committee and read the ad again. If he will follow it, he will find he can go before the CTC, make his argument and be heard there. That is what the ad is about. He has not read it. I hope all farmers read it and we finally get the final decision on the remaining lines, and at the end of this program, along with our \$800 million rail rehabilitation program, we will have preserved lines throughout the prairies. We will be rebuilding them and all doubt that the right hon. gentleman left behind him all over the place will have been resolved and removed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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LABOUR DISPUTES**RECRUITING OF SCABS TO CROSS LEGITIMATE PICKET LINES**

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, it is pretty hard to follow someone who has been talking about Paradise Hill, particularly when you are interested in speaking with the Minister of Employment and Immigration.

I would like to ask the minister if he is aware that a very bitter labour dispute is taking place at the Boise Cascade plant, in Kenora, and that the offices of employment in Thunder Bay and Winnipeg are recruiting scabs to drive trucks and transports through legitimate picket lines who have to be prepared to travel in convoy with OPP escorts? If the minister has knowledge of these posters that ensure danger pay and other unusual compensation, does he condone the UIC offices being used to support management in this labour dispute where mercenaries can only add to an already explosive situation?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, one of the more difficult times we have during the course of a strike is in trying to remain neutral in the situation. As a matter of fact, there is a tendency to lean in favour of those who are working at a plant or, at least, are out on strike because we indicate to individuals, when the employer says he needs employees—and I mean those who may apply for the jobs—that the plant is on strike and that if they do not accept the particular proposal to go to the plant that is struck, they will not be cut off from unemployment insurance benefits. We also indicate we will not bring anybody in under mobility grants. But employers and employees pay into the program, pay the cost of it, and I think we have an obligation to both sides. I will concede to the hon. member that it is a very difficult time to try to remain neutral.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I have read a lot of ads for employment, but I never read one before in which the department itself indicated that there was danger, danger pay being paid, that a high price would be paid, and which would involve bringing the people out by airplane and they would be driving in conditions where the police would be the escort. I would ask the minister if he does not think that this type of operation, where obviously the persons being hired are mercenaries in a

[Mr. Lang.]

battle, is not in keeping with our normal employment practices.

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, I would suggest, with respect, that if we did not put that kind of information down so that the individual who might be applying for the job would not be aware of the conditions, we probably would be justifiably criticized for not saying so. It is a very difficult thing. I think we have an obligation to point it out and, as I said, no one is penalized if he refuses to take the job under those circumstances.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS**INDICATIONS OF REDUCTIONS IN INDIAN EDUCATION FUNDING—REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In his absence, perhaps I might put it to his parliamentary secretary.

In view of recent indications by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that there would be reductions in Indian education funding—and concern has been expressed by bands throughout the country—and in view of the representations which have been made by the Robinson-Huron chiefs at a recent meeting with the minister, has the minister had a chance to review this matter with his cabinet colleagues and Treasury Board so that these funds might be restored for native education programs?

Mr. Hugh A. Anderson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, it is true that some of the secondary education programs of the department have been cut back in the restraint period, but due to representations made by members such as the hon. member for Algoma the minister will be reconsidering the allocation of education funds. I hope the announcement regarding the allocation of those funds will be made within the forthcoming week.

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NORTHERN PIPELINES**PROCUREMENT PLAN FOR ALASKA HIGHWAY PROJECT**

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Deputy Prime Minister, affectionately known as the pipeline czar. I would remind him that he beat his breast in order that we pass the pipeline bill and gave us every assurance that everything was all right with regard to the United States. As a matter of fact, his colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, stated on February 20, 1979, in reply to a question from one of the Liberal members: