

Oral Questions

DORCHESTER—ALLEGATION SPECIAL GUARDS FOR AMBROSE AND HUTCHISON BEING PAID BY PROVINCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Solicitor General confirm that there are seven guards who have been taken off their regular duties to secure the area Ambrose and Hutchison are in, that these are being paid by the province under a special arrangement, but that since they have been taken from the regular contingent, the regular contingent is now light these seven guards; and that as of July 1 two posts were cut by the penitentiary service and there are seven posts short this weekend, a crucial weekend?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I do not have those details. However, I am told that everything is under control at Dorchester penitentiary. The hon. member is quite correct in stating that Ambrose and Hutchison were being guarded by provincial employees. Under ordinary circumstances inmates on death row are in provincial prisons. Because of the special security problems in New Brunswick, and the fact that they had no institution which they felt was suitable for these inmates, they made a special arrangement with us to keep these two fellows at Dorchester pending the outcome of their appeals.

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INDUSTRY

BELLEDUNE FERTILIZER CORPORATION—THREATENED LAY-OFF OF EMPLOYEES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Maurice Harquail (Restigouche): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. In view of plans by the Noranda group to close its subsidiary company, Belledune Fertilizer Corporation, shortly, I wonder whether the Acting Prime Minister would take up the matter with the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce as well as the Secretary of State for External Affairs and arrange discussions to see whether some solution might be found to this problem to avoid laying off some 200 people in that area already bothered by high unemployment?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): I am prepared to do so, Mr. Speaker.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO DEAL WITH POST-CONTROL PERIOD

Mr. Andy Hogan (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister I will direct my question to the Acting Prime Minister. The chairman of the Economic Council of Canada was quoted recently as saying that he supports the Canadian Labour Congress in the belief that, and I quote, "a system of national, social and economic planning is indispensable" for Canada. Does the Acting Prime Minister agree with Dr. Raynauld and, if so, can we soon expect position papers by the government

[Mr. Allmand.]

on this part of the government's policy when the present ill-conceived controls are lifted?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the government has been giving urgent consideration to the policies that would be appropriate following the end of the anti-inflation program. It has been having some discussions with various parties, including the leading representatives of the trade union movement, with the Economic Council and with a number of other agencies. However, the problem is of such complexity that I would not think it would be possible to put these plans before the House before it adjourns for the summer break. It would be our hope, however, that in the new speech from the Throne some indication could be given of the government's approach.

● (1150)

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Speaker, I should like a confirmation from the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the very high unemployment in Canada, the second highest in the western world outside the United States, with the lowest per capita growth rate of any western country, will the minister confirm that this planning mechanism that Dr. Raynauld advocates will be in the speech from the throne?

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FISHERIES

SUGGESTED RETENTION OF RIVER GUARDIANS TO PROTECT SALMON RIVERS IN NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries, I would direct my question to the parliamentary secretary. In view of the fact that river guardians patrolling our salmon rivers are getting lay-off notices this month and the salmon season does not close until September 15, has the minister been made aware of the existing emergency? What action is being taken by the Department of Fisheries with regard to extending the time of the river guardians so our salmon rivers will not face the danger of depletion of salmon stocks, providing poachers with a paradise?

Mr. George Baker (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment and Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I can confirm that we have received several representations on this matter, and also confirm that notices were sent out for terminations I believe for the 24th of this month and the 15th of next month. I can also assure the hon. gentleman that the matter is presently being re-examined.

REQUEST FOR IMPROVED WEATHER FORECASTING SYSTEM FOR FISHERMEN

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, turning to another dangerous situation having to do with weather forecasting, which is causing a danger situation for fishermen and the loss of gear, specifically with reference to the timing between the weather forecasting and the time the fishermen get the informa-