

URBAN AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF MINISTRY—POSITION OF PROVINCES

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, in view of the importance of the subject of my question, as well as the importance of its constitutional aspect, I will put my question in English because the minister responsible for housing may not understand my French. May I ask the minister if the government intends to set up a ministry of urban affairs without the consent of the provinces?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, this subject has been under consultation with all the provinces—I repeat, all the provinces. In the discussions about the formation of a ministry of state for urban affairs and housing, we have found no one who has suggested that this would be improper.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if he has discussed this matter with the province of Quebec, and whether the province of Quebec expressed to the minister its opposition to the setting up of such a ministry?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, their views have been communicated to us. I think the sensitivity of the situation has been recognized by the type of institution, a ministry of state for urban affairs and housing, which we are contemplating and about which I may have more to say in more detail when the government organization bill is back in the House.

[Translation]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the minister a question along the same lines.

Would he tell the House whether Quebec has given an affirmative answer and how many provinces have answered that they were in favour of this project to establish a department?

[English]

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had indicated that none of the provinces have responded in the negative.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

JAME MANUFACTURING COMPANY—MEASURES TO PREVENT CLOSING

Mr. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce is absent, I will direct my question to his Parliamentary Secretary.

Would he tell us if steps have been or will be taken to prevent closure of the shirt factory in Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu, that is the Jame Manufacturing Company, which is being forced to cease operations because of the large number of imported shirts to be found on the Canadian market?

23966—41½

Yukon Minerals Act

[English]

Mr. Bruce Howard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there have been difficulties, as the hon. member knows, with a number of shirt factories in Canada. The Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is discussing and examining each case and, where necessary, references have been made to the Textile and Clothing Board for specific examination.

Mr. Ricard: Mr. Speaker, my question was direct. It does not need such an elaborate answer. I just want to know if specific measures have been taken or will be taken in this special case in order that this manufacturer will not close up shortly.

Mr. Howard (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, measures under the regulations and under the legislation are taken for the industry as a whole and not for a specific factory. In this context, the remedy must be applied on an over-all basis.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I have a non-controversial question which I wish to direct to the attention of the Acting Prime Minister.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Watch out.

Mr. Mather: Could he say what consideration the government is giving at this time to selling to the United States a basic, renewable Canadian resource, snow?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

YUKON MINERALS ACT

ADMINISTRATION, ACQUISITION AND RECORDING OF CLAIMS, ETC.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development) moved that Bill C-187, respecting minerals in the Yukon Territory, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Speaker, may I call it one o'clock?

Mr. Speaker: Does the House agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.