

consideration to his giving the riding of Hamilton-Wentworth \$500,000 for job creation programs in his new Budget?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I would be very happy to pass the Hon. Member's request on to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I know he is doing his best to help his constituents, and I will pass the message on to the responsible Minister.

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## HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

### ETHYLENE DIBROMIDE INQUIRY

**Hon. Jake Epp (Provencher):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and relates to the virtual ban of the pesticide ethylene dibromide, or EDB, in the United States. I am aware that EDB is primarily used as a soil fumigant and for citrus and other tropical fruits, and that the problem is primarily with agriculture in the U.S. and not in Canada. Is the Minister satisfied that EDB in various foods, especially cake mixes and so forth, is not a threat in Canada?

**Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a chance to review my dossier and give an answer to the Member tomorrow.

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● (1500)

## FINANCE

### EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES PROGRAM—ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister and relates to the Employment Initiatives Program referred to by my colleagues from Calgary West and Hamilton Wentworth. There is no question that the Liberal Members have been given different treatment with respect to this program from that given to any other Members of Parliament. They have been guaranteed \$500,000 and asked specifically for projects which would be used within Liberal ridings.

The Prime Minister and his Government are playing sleazy politics on the backs of the unemployed. Will the Prime Minister immediately have a stop put to this very unsavoury type of activity on the part of the Liberal Party and the Liberal Government? We have seen the Minister of Finance act in this sleazy method. We do not want to see all Members of the Cabinet lower themselves to that standard.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I dealt with this in the first answer I gave today. Since then I have looked at the figures. There was some \$150 million being targeted to all provinces and all parts of Canada, including the Territories. The moneys are targeted according to unemployment rates. The Government has made sure that these funds

## Privilege—Mr. Cooper

will be spent in areas where unemployment is high. It does not seem inconsistent to me for the Minister, under whose authority the funds come, to consult Members as to how they can best be spent. He is in constant touch with his caucus and with regional Ministers. It seems to be a good way to try to meet their objectives. I repeat, the funds are being spent in every province. There are no Liberal Members of Parliament elected in at least three of the provinces, and only one in another, so it would seem to me that, mathematically, funds must be spent in Tory ridings.

## CONSULTATIONS WITH MEMBERS

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Mr. Speaker, the simple fact of the matter is that we on this side of the House are not being consulted and are not partaking in any of these projects. It is very much a political porkbarrel in which the Prime Minister and his Cabinet are indulging. Will the Prime Minister give an undertaking that in terms of input with respect to these projects we will all receive the same treatment that he and his colleagues are giving to people in the Liberal Party? I find this despicable.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member or his colleagues have projects in their particular ridings in which there is high unemployment, on which they would like money spent, let them submit those projects to the Minister. I am sure he will consider them most earnestly.

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## PETITIONS

### MR. SARGEANT—TAXATION OF DISTILLERY PRODUCTS

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Selkirk-Interlake (Mr. Sargeant) meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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## PRIVILEGE

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair has received notice from the Hon. Member for Peace River (Mr. Cooper) of a matter of privilege. I will recognize him. However, normally the courtesy is extended to the Chair of indicating what the subject matter of the privilege is.

### MR. COOPER—ALLEGED INTIMIDATION BY CANADA POST OFFICIAL

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege for the first time since I have been elected to serve in the House. I recognize that privilege is a serious matter and one which should not be taken lightly.