

Inquiries of the Ministry

view of the alarming increase in unemployment in the Atlantic provinces, will he reconsider the decision of his government not to proceed with the harnessing of the Bay of Fundy tides from a power development point of view?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Coates: Mr. Speaker, is it the intention of the Prime Minister to suspend construction of the new international airport in Quebec and to suspend the granting of interest free and low interest loans to underdeveloped countries in the world until interest rates decline?

BAY OF FUNDY—DEPARTMENTAL STUDY OF
RECOMMENDATIONS OF PROGRAMMING
BOARD

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the report released on Friday and some of the recommendations on Fundy power of the Atlantic Tidal Power Programming Board, is it the intention of his department to strike immediately a committee of departmental officials to study some of those recommendations and in particular the potential development of research to reduce the cost of generating equipment and construction in order that this project might proceed in the future?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): This is something we are looking into right now, Mr. Speaker. No decision has been made yet.

Mr. Nowlan: I wonder if I might ask another supplementary question? In view of the fact that the report was tabled on Friday, and the minister is looking into many facets of this very fundamental project that could bring so much to the east, would the minister make a statement on motions in the very near future as to what his department plans to do about this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I will consider this request.

[*Mr. Coates.*]

[*English*]

FINANCE

INVESTIGATION OF OPERATIONS OF THE MINT

Mr. F. J. Bigg (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance, but in his absence perhaps the Minister of Justice will be able to answer it for me. In view of recent cases involving bribery and corruption in the Royal Mint, will the government assure the House that a thorough investigation of the operations of the Mint will be started immediately and, if necessary, a royal commission set up in order that the public interest may be fully protected?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I will transmit the question to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker.

MANPOWER

ALIENATED YOUTH PROGRAM—STUDENT SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Could he inform the House whether it is the intention of the government to discontinue its alienated youth program in Toronto and Montreal and, if so, why?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I do not recognize the program as coming within my department.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, is the government planning any new summer student employment program in provinces facing economic difficulties, such as Saskatchewan and the Maritimes?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, we are proposing and will implement a summer student employment program in all provinces.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—INTRODUCTION BY IMPERIAL OIL OF REVOLVING CREDIT SYSTEM

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Is he aware of the recent announcement by Imperial Oil of Canada that it is switching its credit cards to a revolving credit system, thereby increasing the cost of petroleum products to con-