

strategy to assist the private sector to hire summer students during the current employment and education crisis.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

NUMBER OF PERSONS NOT ENTITLED TO BENEFITS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, I wish to present a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Having received reliable information yesterday from the Department of Employment and Immigration to the effect that by December 31, 500,000 Canadians will have no other alternative but to go on welfare, since they will have exhausted their entitlement to unemployment insurance benefits, and whereas the minister responsible has refused to either confirm or deny this information which was obtained from his own department, I move, seconded by the member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro):

That the House unanimously urge the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) to publish as soon as possible the approximate number of Canadians who will no longer be entitled to unemployment insurance by December 31, and a negative reply will merely give my statement greater weight.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

KENT ROYAL COMMISSION

CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF NEWSPAPER LEGISLATION PROPOSAL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a motion of urgent and pressing necessity. Whereas the government's response to the Kent Commission legitimizes the problem rather than resolves it, and whereas the hysterical response of some of the nation's publishers committing themselves to fight—in the air, on the land, and the sea, and in the gutters of Canada—the provisions of the government's response, and whereas it is unlikely that a newspaper act will ever appeal before this House of Commons or will ever be passed by it, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton):

Oral Questions

That the minister responsible for the Kent Commission withdraw the proposal for a newspaper act for the time being and consult with the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs with a view to bringing in amendments to the Combines Investigation Act and establish a special media branch for the time being within the bureau of competition policy to develop a framework for a competitive Canadian communications industry.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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CHARTER OF RIGHTS

APPLICABILITY TO PUBLIC SERVANTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, the cases of Neil Fraser and Paul McNeill have exposed the existence of codes of conduct governing the personal behaviour of federal public servants. The Canadian Human Rights Commissioner indicates those codes of conduct violate freedom of speech in Canada. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Corbett):

That the Minister of Justice give real meaning to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms by reviewing codes of conduct governing federal public servants and determining whether the code provisions violate freedom of thought and expression and are thereby unconstitutional.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ECONOMY

INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. David Crombie (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen). The minister, in his budget statement on November 12, predicted that the unemployment rate this year would be in the order of 7.8 per cent. The minister knows and, indeed, the country knows, that the rate is now 9.6 per cent, and that is in the order of one and a quarter million Canadians out of work and walking the streets looking for it.

Yesterday the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) in a statement to the Mining Association of Canada, said, "Lay-offs are continuing at a relatively high level and we must face the likelihood that high unemployment will persist for some time to come".