

the removal of the Crown from the insignia of non-commissioned officers up to the rank of staff sergeant-major?

Mr. Allmand: No, Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge. I have not heard anything about that. I might say that last summer the weight of cloth in the uniforms was changed in order to give members of the RCMP a lighter summer uniform, but it was the same uniform.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Removal of the Crown would not do that.

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SEARCH AND RESCUE

SEARCH FOR PLANE LOST IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. I should like to ask the minister whether there are any new developments in the search for four missing men in northern Saskatchewan as the result of the crash of a plane which originated from La Ronge?

● (1430)

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, this search has been continued intensively. About half an hour ago I heard that the site of the crash had been located, but we have not got confirmation yet. A helicopter is travelling to the site now.

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[Translation]

SPORTS

VIOLENCE IN JUNIOR HOCKEY—MEETING WITH CANADIAN AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION AUTHORITIES

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

On December 21, I asked the minister whether he was considering the possibility of an inquiry on violence in junior hockey in Canada. Since he replied affirmatively concerning the possibility of such an inquiry, would he say whether he has met with Canadian Amateur Hockey Association authorities and can he say when he shall get the report of this inquiry and report to the House?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I have been unable so far to meet with representatives of the CAHA. I hope I can do so in the next few days. I shall then report to the hon. member.

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[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

EFFECT OF EXPECTED RATE OF GROWTH AND INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT IN UNITED STATES ON CANADIAN EXPORTS

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Oral Questions

Given the fact that the chairman of the Economic Council of the United States has now said that the United States government is expecting the rate of growth of their economy to be not more than 4 per cent and that the unemployment rate will rise to 6 per cent, can the minister tell us what effect this will have on Canadian exports to the United States during the forthcoming year?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, of course this is something we are watching on a very close basis. We recognize, as does the hon. member, all the uncertainties involved in this situation, but we think it will be a very good year.

Mr. Gillies: Does the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce have members of his department working precisely on estimating what the possible impact of a change of that dimension in the economy of our trading partner will be on our economy?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, we have it under constant and continuing review.

Mr. Gillies: Will the minister table in the House of Commons within the next week the results of such studies so that the Canadian people may have some idea of what the Canadian government thinks about the economic situation?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, we have it under constant and continuing review.

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ENERGY

HOME HEATING OIL—POSSIBLE PROVISION OF RELIEF TO CONSUMERS IN FIVE EASTERN PROVINCES

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources if a decision has been made yet to provide some relief to the consumers of the five eastern provinces who are suffering from the energy situation, especially in the area of home heat? If such a decision has been made, will it be announced before the meeting of first ministers at the end of January?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, no such decision has been taken at the moment, although that will obviously be the primary question for discussion at the first ministers' conference later this month.

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LABOUR RELATIONS

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES—INQUIRY WHEN ARBITRATOR'S REPORT WILL BE MADE

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggart): Mr. Speaker, may I address my question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the present difficulties in rail transport, the shortage of feed grain supplies in eastern Canada and the difficulties that are being experienced in the Edmonton yards and in