

and credibility of this government than anything else imaginable. I will put the question again. Is the government considering a new economic plan to try to add some confidence in the economy now, and bring in a new budget which will erase some of the disastrous policies brought in last November which have caused some of the problems we have today?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)): Madam Speaker, the hon. member is saying that no budget legislation has been passed as yet. However, yesterday evening the House had an opportunity to vote on a very important piece of fiscal legislation that introduces petroleum and gas revenue taxes. Furthermore, next week the House will be sitting in Committee of the Whole to consider the borrowing authority bill, an extremely important piece of budget legislation, and the House will have an opportunity to continue the debate on the economy. The hon. member is asking whether the government intends to bring down a budget. In fact, only a few weeks ago in his green paper on proposals for broader consultation in the budget process, the Minister of Finance indicated that he was in favour of having budgets on set dates, preferably in the autumn.

[English]

ORIGIN OF STATISTICAL DATA

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance I will direct my question to the Minister of State for Finance who, if I understand him correctly, has just made an astounding statement. Do we understand that the minister is saying that these figures referred to are not Finance Department figures but are available from the IMF and other agencies? If so, if international agencies can forecast and revise unemployment and inflation rates, why can't the Minister of Finance?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)): Madam Speaker, I think that if the hon. member took the time to do a bit of research she would find that it is common practice for many international organizations, including the Monetary Fund and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development—the OECD—to publish regularly projections and forecasts on employment, unemployment, and the economic outlook in various countries. There is certainly nothing to get excited about. Similar studies are published by the Department of Finance and the Minister of Finance tabled several when he brought down the budget, and many other organizations publish them as well. There is nothing unusual about that.

[English]

Miss Carney: Madam Speaker, I will leave the Minister of State for Finance to swing at the end of the rope in his response to that question, and will direct my supplementary to the minister responsible for unemployment and immigration.

Oral Questions

EMPLOYMENT

STUDENT SUMMER JOB-CREATION MEASURES

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Madam Speaker, I would like to direct the attention of the Minister of Employment and Immigration to the critical lack of jobs this summer. I was present yesterday at the opening of one of his student employment projects in the Vancouver area. I know placements are one tenth the number of applications, and I know there could be 200,000 students without jobs this summer. In B.C. the youth segment of the labour force is running an unemployment rate of 20 per cent. I know the minister is bringing in his training bill today, but there are no emergency measures in place for this summer, and I ask the minister what assistance he is planning now in the short term to encourage business to employ students in the next four months?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Madam Speaker, to begin with, I am pleased the hon. member took time to attend the opening. I think it is important that all Members of Parliament work in very close co-operation with our special system of student employment centres in order to help them achieve their goal of aiding students to gain employment.

We have undertaken a number of special measures. I have now written to close to 1,400 employers across Canada asking for their co-operation in developing employment opportunities for students. The federal government has undertaken special measures to add money to the student employment budget this year, in contrast to the position taken by the government of British Columbia which cut back on its allotment for student employment.

● (1140)

We have made an appeal to Members of Parliament asking them to undertake special measures in their own ridings to contact businessmen to see what resources they have in their own offices to help students with employment. We are undertaking a major advertising campaign in an effort to engage and enlist the support of the private sector in providing employment for students this summer.

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CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

STATEMENT MADE BY RESPONSIBLE MINISTER

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Senator Austin, who is in charge of the Canada Development Corporation, announced yesterday that the government plans to privatize that corporation. Can the Acting Prime Minister confirm this? If he does, how does that square with the Liberal promise found in the *Montreal Gazette* for February 13, 1980, which quoted a statement made by the Prime Minister that when the Liberal party was re-elected, it would convert the CDC into a bigger player in industrial development along the lines of