Inquiries of the Ministry LABOUR RELATIONS

ACADIA FISHING COMPANY AND BOOTH FISH-ERIES—ASSISTANCE IN SETTLING STRIKE— PROVISION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): My question is directed to the Minister of Labour. Does the hon. gentleman plan to take any steps to assist in settling the strike of fishermen against Acadia and Booth Fisheries in Nova Scotia?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): Does the minister intend to take any immediate steps to put into effect the recommendations of the Woods task force on labour relations that fishermen be given the right to collective bargaining?

Mr. Mackasey: This is always a possibility when these proposed changes are brought before the House.

[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INQUIRY AS TO WHITE PAPER

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Labour.

In view of the fact that for several months we have been promised a white paper on the Unemployment Insurance Commission, can the minister assure the House that this white paper will be tabled before the summer adjournment, and tell us if the document will be based on the findings of the Gill Commission?

[English]

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Any white paper that I may bring forward on unemployment insurance before the end of the session would, of course, have to take into consideration the recommendations of the Gill report. I am still hoping I shall be able to bring in this paper before the end of the session.

MANPOWER

NEWFOUNDLAND-SPEEDING UP OF PROGRAMS TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): My question is addressed to the Prime Minisplanned for the benefit of Canada's most east- who need some basic skill?

[Mr. Benson.]

erly province so as to alleviate the unemployment situation there which appears to be getting worse instead of better?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Over the past days and weeks, various ministers have indicated that there is indeed urgency being attached to this matter and, in fact, a considerable amount of assistance has been given.

Mr. Lundrigan: A number of programs have been planned for that province but in the normal course of events it is bound to be some time before they can be implemented. We are now in the middle of summer and the unemployment rate is something like 20 per cent. In the circumstances, would the Prime Minister consult with his colleagues in the effort to speed up these government programs so that they might have some minor impact on the unemployment situation in the near future?

Mr. Trudeau: This suggestion is very much in the mind of the government. Indeed, the proposals which the Minister of Finance made in Winnipeg on Friday involving the expenditure of some of our current financial surplus in various parts of Canada were thought up with a view precisely to making sure that our surplus would be spent in order to assist the particular parts of Canada which need help the most.

Mr. Lundrigan: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the Department of Manpower and Immigration planning to modify its manpower programs in order to try to create some opportunity for people of upper middle age who are basically unemployable and largely untrainable owing to the lack of fundamental skills and education and try to modify-

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's supplementary is very general in nature, and I suggest to him invites a response from the minister which should normally be made to the House by way of a statement on motions.

Mr. Lundrigan: May I finish my question and ask the minister whether he is planning to revive the Newstart program on a general ter. At the risk of sounding parochial, may I level across Canada, a program which apparask whether the government would attach ently had some relevance to people of upper some urgency to government programs middle age who are largely untrained and