

cooling-off period and since he asked the engineers, as a personal favour to him, to return to work, I wonder whether the minister could enlighten us on this point at this time? Has he had a response to this request, and does he intend to follow through on this approach?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I spoke personally to the members of the BLE in the general Vancouver area or British Columbia who are on strike and suggested that it would be in the best interests of the BLE and the national unit if they did not anticipate the outcome of the negotiations and returned to work. They refused my request, but I understand they are meeting again at two o'clock this afternoon to reconsider the matter.

Mr. Alexander: Since the minister has a certain amount of charm, and I am not trying to be facetious, can he assure the House and the nation that he will continue to approach the engineers with the request that, as a personal favour to him, they return to work? Can he assure us that he will continue that approach?

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, if I thought it would bring a settlement, I would kiss the blarney stone.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Labour, who has been quite conciliatory in this matter, if he will muzzle the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour who apparently seems to be trying to bring this matter to an unsatisfactory climax?

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[Translation]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Secretary of State concerning the Opportunities for Youth program.

Since the government of the province of Quebec has demanded the right of veto regarding projects designed to create jobs for students during the 1971 summer vacation, to be financed entirely by the federal government, could the minister tell us whether students are to submit their project suggestions to Quebec or to Ottawa?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, clearly the hon. member's information is not only incomplete but inaccurate. The agreement between the Quebec and federal governments calls for a Quebec official to be delegated to the secretariat in charge of such projects and for permanent co-ordination in order that priorities and criteria of both governments may be met.

Moreover, a telegram to this effect has been sent to all provincial governments anxious to send one of their officials to this secretariat in order to maintain the best co-ordination possible.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

The reply to the hon. member's question is very simple: the project is a federal endeavour and applications should be submitted to the federal government.

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Considering the answer just given by the minister, could he tell us if the final decision, with regard to any project, rests with the federal government?

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I believe that I have stated clearly enough that this was a federal program, but I have also stated clearly that the federal and provincial governments had agreed to make joint decisions which do not adversely affect the priorities of the one or the others.

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question—

[Later:]

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—ORGANIZATIONS THAT QUALIFY FOR GRANTS

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the hon. Secretary of State and ask him whether groups or clubs such as service clubs, Lions or other similar organizations will be financially assisted in the same manner as usually extended to students. Will those clubs which propose certain projects also receive some financial assistance?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this is indeed a program called Opportunities for Youth, that is a project involving young people, initiatives and achievements by young people. The fact that the projects are sponsored by a committee which includes adults and that these are members of one club or another, is not an obstacle; but the hon. member will realize that the emphasis must be on the responsibility and initiative of young people themselves.

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[English]

LABOUR RELATIONS

DISPUTE BETWEEN HUDSON BAY MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY AND EMPLOYEES—PLANS TO EFFECT SETTLEMENT

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. With reference to the strike of tradesmen employed by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company at Flin Flon, Manitoba, which is well into its third month and is also causing a drastic situation economically in the entire city as well as for many suppliers across Canada, has the minister any further plans to attempt to bring the two parties together in view of the fact that the most recent mediation attempts unfortunately ended in failure?