

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

which shared-cost programs he meant when on Friday morning last he adumbrated on the nature of vested interests in federal expenditures?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we had talks on a number of matters including oil policy, wheat, federal-provincial relations and various aspects of the constitution.

**Mr. Woolliams:** And the weather.

**Mr. Trudeau:** And the weather. It was not intended that these meetings between Premier Strom and myself would be other than of a confidential nature. I do not feel it proper, therefore, to report on the substance of the meeting.

**CRIMINAL CODE****OPERATION OF OFF-TRACK BETTING ESTABLISHMENTS**

**Mr. R. L. Whiting (Halton):** My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Is it the intention of the government to amend the Criminal Code to prohibit the operation of off-track betting establishments?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** Any policy in that regard in the normal course will be announced in the usual way.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS****SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS**

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. About ten days ago in this house I asked the minister if he had any emergency plans for employment of students during the summer months. The minister replied in the affirmative, but did not give details. Is the minister now in a position to give details of his plan for employment of students during the coming summer months? Thousands of students are without employment at the present time.

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** There will be a large number of students applying for jobs this summer because of the heavy increase in the student population. I believe however that the efforts of the department, other levels of government and private employers will improve the situation in the labour market and offer a great number of opportunities to students this summer. There may be a shortfall. I am sure all hon. members realize that the solution to this problem requires not only leadership from the federal government, but

[Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West).]

assistance from other governments and individuals in this country.

One step we as a federal government have taken, in order to provide some indication of our concern, is to authorize and direct all departments to increase their student hirings by at least 10 per cent over last summer, in accordance with the growth of the student population. That is one measure.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** In view of the minister's reply to my question, is it a fact that some tentative plans referred to by the minister ten days ago in this house have now been scrapped?

**Mr. MacEachen:** No, Mr. Speaker. What I stated was that the discussion of this whole question cannot be undertaken on orders of the day. Last week I made a very extensive statement on this problem to the standing committee examining my estimates. I will be happy to provide the hon. member with a copy.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE****NATO—POSSIBILITY OF CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN SECURITY**

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and ask him if the government has received an invitation from the government of Finland to attend a conference of NATO pact and Warsaw pact countries on the subject of a European security arrangement to replace the present military alliance?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I received the ambassador of Finland some days ago who conveyed to me the views of his government. I want to make it clear however that the government of Finland has not issued an invitation. Finnish representatives have approached Canada, the United States and all European countries to take soundings of their attitudes toward the eventual holding of a conference on European security under suitable conditions. The government of Finland has intimated that if other countries were agreed, if all governments concerned could take part, if the conference were thoroughly prepared and if there seemed to be reasonable prospects of success, it would be ready to act as host to a preparatory meeting to deal with questions of procedure.

**Mr. Brewin:** Could the minister say whether the Canadian government's attitude to the various conditions is also favourable?