

Inquiries of the Ministry

rection in the same way as the hon. member for Peace River and other hon. members have done in co-operation with the Chair in the past.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, there is no problem at all. I really want to co-operate with Your Honour. When I used the word "lie", I repeat I used it in the same sense as the House leader of the Official Opposition.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Trudeau: I understand that he says it is a—I stumble a little over the word—terminological—

An hon. Member: The Prime Minister did not stumble over fuddle-duddle.

Mr. Trudeau: What I meant is that he used the words "terminological inexactitude", Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Baldwin: We understand each other now.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure whether that is exactly what I would have liked the right hon. gentleman to do. I would think he has gone half way, but I would have liked him to follow the good example set by other hon. members who normally are prepared to co-operate with the Chair.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a last supplementary question. I do not intend to become involved in a confrontation with the Prime Minister, but I think he continually drags red herrings into very important topics.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Alexander: I say this seriously.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has the floor at this point but not to make the situation worse. It is bad enough now. I would hope that hon. members would limit themselves to questions. Yesterday there were so many points of order and questions of privilege during the 40-minute question period that a number of hon. members—I noticed the hon. member for Red Deer in particular—did not have a chance to ask their questions. If we pursue these points of order and questions of privilege, we shall again be placed in the same situation. I will recognize the hon. member for Hamilton West for one more supplementary, and then I will recognize the hon. member for Témiscamingue.

Mr. Alexander: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will continue to be responsible.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Alexander: Since the cost of living index has been removed as a factor in old age security payments, I wonder whether the Prime Minister, in view of the fact that inflation is continuing and rising and is undoubtedly affecting these payments, would seriously reconsider the removal of the cost of living index factor from these payments in order that we may give some relief to our needy senior citizens?

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I apologize, but I missed the first part of the question. I assure the hon. member that I will read it in *Hansard* and see if I can provide an answer.

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[Translation]

LABOUR CONDITIONS**EFFECT OF PASSAGE OF BILL C-207 IN FIGHTING UNEMPLOYMENT—CO-OPERATION OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY IN PROVIDING JOBS FOR STUDENTS**

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, now that the children have finished playing, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

Since he has been saying for some time now that adoption of the bill enabling the government to create new departments would solve the economic crisis in Canada, I would like to ask him how this would effectively help the fight against unemployment in Canada?

My second question is: Is the government receiving all the co-operation needed now from private enterprise across Canada to find summer jobs for students?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): As regards the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker, I must tell the hon. member that were he less busy making clever remarks, he would have grasped a little better what I said.

As regards the second part, Mr. Speaker, the co-operation of private enterprise was requested and, to the extent it is granted, we are satisfied.

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT—INCLUSION ON AGENDA OF FORTHCOMING FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the original question asked by the hon. member for Hamilton West. With respect to the very crucial problem that faces not only urban centres but the provinces as well, I wonder whether the Prime Minister, in view of his imminent departure, has made any arrangement to meet the requests of the Prime Minister of Ontario and others that unemployment be included on the agenda of the forthcoming federal-provincial conference.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I told the Prime Minister of Ontario, and I propose to put it to the other provinces, that if they wish to prolong the stay in Victoria we are quite prepared to do so and discuss unemployment or any other matter. I want to impress on everyone, however, that the task which we have set ourselves to achieve in Victoria is essentially the constitutional one. I am trying to get agreement that we will give priority to this to make sure that any other subjects we want to discuss will be discussed after the end of the constitutional debate.