

Oral Questions

representations of the company, that the change in the tariff has made that much difference. In any event, the company was established when the tariff was at the higher of the two rates and they understood at the time what they were getting into.

Mr. Dinsdale: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As the bicycle market in Canada and North America is booming and as the inability of the Sekine bicycle plant to compete in this market arises from the budget changes, will the minister take the responsibility of consulting with other ministers and departments involved so that the right hand of government may know what the left hand is doing in this respect.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, the question is whether, indeed, the premise of the hon. member's question is correct. I am not satisfied that that is the effect at the moment, but I am prepared and have been for some time to meet with the Sekine people. I shall be in Manitoba this week-end, and if a meeting can be arranged so that I can find out what their difficulties are, I will be glad to do it. I have consulted with the Minister of Finance on a number of occasions on this matter.

● (1510)

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order concerning the remarks of the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi. The hon. member knows full well that he only made about a three hour visit to the Sudbury basin approximately a week ago. He has now misinformed the House, stating that the unemployment rate in the Sudbury area is 3 per cent or less. As everyone in the north knows, the rates of unemployment in the northern Ontario constituencies, whether they be Liberal or not, and they are mostly Liberal, is much higher than 3 per cent. They are between 6 and 20 per cent.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ALLEGATION LATIN AMERICAN SECTION OF CIDA DECLARED UNILINGUAL FRENCH—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact that the province of British Columbia is trying very hard to increase trade with Latin America, and in view of the fact that CP Air is the Canadian airline flying into most Latin American centres of commerce, can the minister advise this House whether he gave his permission for the Latin American section of CIDA to be declared unilingual French.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, that subject has not been referred to me for consideration or decision. I will look into the matter. If I find any information worth giving, I will make it available to the hon. member.

[Mr. Jamieson.]

[Translation]

INDUSTRY**TEXTILES—RESULTS OF MEETING WITH UNION LEADERS**

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Since a great many workers of the textile industry came to the capital yesterday to ask the minister and the government to adopt special protection measures for their jobs, could I ask the minister what was the answer to the union leaders on the matter?

[English]

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there was a very substantial discussion with the union leaders and textile workers. We, that is my parliamentary secretary, members of my department and the President of the Treasury Board, reviewed the current situation both in domestic and international terms. I indicated that the Textile and Clothing Board will be making a report to me very shortly and, as soon as that is received, we will act upon it promptly.

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[Translation]

FISHERIES**EXTENSION OF SUBSIDY TO DOGFISH INDUSTRY—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State responsible for Fisheries.

I want to ask him whether he intends to recommend to his colleagues of the cabinet, and in particular to the President of the Treasury Board, the extension of the policy previously implemented on the west coast, which gave subsidies for catching dogfish whose meat contains many proteins and vitamins. This extension would enable west coast fishermen to continue their trade during the dead season and its cost would not be over \$50,000 a year, I understand.

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of State (Fisheries)): Mr. Speaker, this matter is now under study. However, I hope we will be able to come to the conclusion that the program will be more successful than in the past. This is what we are trying to determine.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

Since such a grant would allow fishermen to reduce the dogfish population, those voracious and well known predators, and that it would facilitate greater reproduction of herring and salmon, is the minister aware that such a grant would not only help fishermen but would also favour herring and salmon stock growth and, if so, is he prepared to give that measure the priority it deserves?

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): Mr. Speaker, while I admit the validity of the premises of the hon. member's question, I must say that is a matter of judgment, that is