

Mr. Diefenbaker: Apparently the United States has been exerting some pressure on Canada. The simple question is: Has the American administration asked for a reasonable balance as between these purchases and, in particular, that in the next year or two Canada should purchase from the United States a great deal more defence material than ever before? If so, has the government of Canada pointed out that to bring about that balance under the agreement of 1963 would mean a loss to Canada of \$500 million a year in trade and increased unemployment within our country?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I share the right hon. gentleman's viewpoint. In general terms, no, the United States officially has not impressed upon me the necessity of righting this balance. As I have said, any representations made to me have only been in regard to the Orion aircraft which, as I have said, we will not necessarily buy, nor any other American aircraft, if it does not meet our requirement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will allow a supplementary to the right hon. member for Prince Albert but I would invite hon. members to limit supplementaries as I am anxious to recognize those who were not given an opportunity to ask their questions yesterday and are waiting to do so now.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I just want an answer to that simple question whether the United States is now applying pressure to Canada in this regard. Has the Canadian government pointed out to the United States the adverse results of anything like a balance being established for defence as between our two countries?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to respond to the hon. gentleman for the third time. There has not been general pressure on me as Minister of National Defence. There has been with regard to the Orion aircraft—

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is defence material.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):—as I pointed out to the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath).

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MANPOWER

ALLEGED RELUCTANCE OF UNEMPLOYED TO ACCEPT CERTAIN KINDS OF JOBS OR LEAVE HOMES

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Based on the report that the Prime Minister stated on Friday that many jobs are going begging in Canada because Canadians do not want certain kinds of work or are not prepared to leave their homes, I should like to ask the Prime Minister if this kind of evidence is provided by the Department of Manpower and Immigration and, if so, will this statistical information be made available to the House?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I think this is information I got from a member of the opposition, Mr. Speaker, who was complaining that in his riding there were not enough workers to pick fruit from the trees of his constituents.

Mr. Baldwin: How about parliamentary secretaries?

Mr. McGrath: May I ask the Prime Minister if it is his view that Canadians are in fact too lazy to go to work and are not prepared to leave their homes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

AVAILABILITY OF JOBS IN THOMPSON AND SUDBURY

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that in the last couple of weeks International Nickel Company has announced lay-offs in Thompson and Sudbury, may I ask on what information the Prime Minister based his statement that jobs are available in those two centres?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was referring to a statement I had made a year ago when there were jobs. In the same answer I referred to a comment on my answer which had been made at that time by Mr. Mahoney of the steelworkers saying that I should ask permission before saying there were jobs in Thompson.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

SPECIAL LOAN FUND TO ENCOURAGE WINTER EMPLOYMENT—AVAILABILITY OF CRITERIA AND APPLICATION FORMS TO PROVINCES

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Ontario): I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Do the provincial authorities have the criteria and forms necessary to assist municipalities in making application for loans under the new \$160 million loan fund recently set up to encourage employment during winter months?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister of Finance wrote to all the provinces saying what the criteria are and setting down the conditions. We have forms here in Ottawa but they do not have to fill in their applications on those forms. They have all the necessary information and they just have to follow the guidelines and forward their requests.

Mr. Baldwin: Is that for this year or next year?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): This year.

Mr. Cafik: Are any further agreements required between the provinces, particularly Ontario, and the federal government before this program can be implemented?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I think it has to be approved by both parties before it is implemented but first we have to receive the application.