

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

#### REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF INCREASE IN CLAIMANTS IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1973 AND DECREASE IN UNEMPLOYED

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration arising from the fact that the number of unemployment insurance claimants was some 10 per cent higher during the first three months of 1973 than in the first three months of 1972, although Statistics Canada reported some 34,000 fewer people unemployed in the month of March. Has the minister prepared or had prepared any detailed explanation of the fact that the claimant rate and the unemployment rate seem to be moving in opposite directions during these three months and, if so, is he prepared to table that explanation in the House?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, there are several factors involved here: the length of time of benefit, the accelerated or speeded up treatment of claims which has condensed the pay-outs in the first quarter this year compared with last year, the maturity of the plan, the increase in sickness and maternity benefits and several other factors which explanation was placed before the standing committee recently and which will be in the transcript that will be available to this House very shortly.

**Mr. Stanfield:** I appreciate what the minister has said about maturity of claims, maternity claims and so on, but I should like to ask whether he is having any accurate study made of the total number of claimants and the fact that the number seem to have been going in a direction opposite to the unemployment rate as reported by Statistics Canada?

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, these kinds of statistics are under constant examination.

#### REQUEST FOR PROJECTED EXPENDITURE FOR 1973

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** I have another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that the minister will give us some information on this. In light of the cost of the program being \$150 million higher during the first quarter of 1973 than in 1972, and the total cost of some \$2 billion during 1972, can the minister give us any revised estimate as to the projected expenditure under the plan during 1973?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, this too would depend on very many factors: the rate of unemployment, the length of benefit pay-outs and several other factors which have been stated in this House many times. The actual pay-out will be made known and will be approved or otherwise in the main estimates for 1974 as provided for in the recent amendments contained in Bill C-124.

### Oral Questions

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Trinity on a supplementary question and then the hon. member for Winnipeg North.

#### REQUEST FOR ANSWER TO QUESTION 2086 CONCERNING NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister could indicate whether he will be in a position to answer question 2086 tomorrow so that the House will know how many people were actually receiving benefits in January, February, March and April?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I will see if that answer can be expedited.

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### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

#### PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF PROGRAMS IN OTHER THAN FRENCH AND ENGLISH ON STATION CKSB, ST. BONIFACE—GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of State in charge of multicultural programs in the absence of the Secretary of State. I should like to ask whether he or the Secretary of State has had discussions with officials of the CBC about representations made to the minister in the past week in connection with the CBC limitation of programs in other than the English or French languages which have been carried on Station CKSB, St. Boniface, now taken over by the CBC, and which the CBC proposes to eliminate after a year's operation?

**Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State):** Mr. Speaker, I have not had any personal meeting with the President of the CBC since last Friday, but since the Secretary of State is here now perhaps he might answer the other part of the question.

**Mr. Orlikow:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct the question to the Secretary of State who has just come into the House. Has he had any discussions with the president of the CBC in the past few days in connection with representations made to ministers of the Crown and other members concerning the proposed cutback by the CBC of programs in other than the French or English languages which have been carried by station CKSB in St. Boniface?

● (1530)

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** No, I have not had a discussion with the president of the CBC.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER ON MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State whether he has learned of the representation made to the CBC by the language commissioner on this subject, and the subsequent rejection by the CBC of the suggestion made by the