

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

federal minister would receive their full support and the deadline would be met. Highwaymen cannot be allowed to continue their careers indefinitely without danger not only to public well-being but to the respect in which governments are held in this country.

I hope the Minister of National Health and Welfare will stop the game of cat-and-mouse which Mr. Gaglardi is inviting him to play in this regard, and will take steps to call the bluff of one of the most bluffing provincial ministers of welfare we have ever had in the province of British Columbia.

Mr. Rosaire Gendron (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, in response to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) the minister indicated that if specific instances could be identified whereby recipients are denied benefits contrary to the terms of the Canada Assistance Plan, he would have no choice but to take appropriate action to ensure that the terms of the agreement are being honoured. I can only report on the minister's behalf that a number of specific examples have been received by the department. These have been referred to the officials of the British Columbia department of rehabilitation and social improvement with the request that the circumstances be investigated to determine whether the person is in fact in need of and eligible for assistance as provided in the province's agreement under the Canada Assistance Plan.

I can also report that the Minister of National Health and Welfare and Mr. Gaglardi, Minister of Rehabilitation and Social Improvement for British Columbia, have discussed the welfare status of employees locked out in a labour dispute in relation to Canada Assistance Plan benefits, in order to resolve this matter. The minister will soon make a statement in the House on the results of his discussions.

BROADCASTING POLICY—SUGGESTED REFERENCE OF ACT TO COMMITTEE IN LIGHT OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, before another long, hot summer approaches, when hopefully we will be involved in another session, something new will be in the living room of every Canadian home. I refer to a video recording apparatus which can tape from one's TV set programs from that set. If one wishes to watch one program and see what is on another channel,

one will be able to do that, so complex and interesting is this apparatus. This information was given to us in the broadcasting committee and it prompted me to ask the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier) whether, in light of this and other developments, he would consider examining the Broadcasting Act at the earliest possible opportunity to take into account all the technological changes in the communications industry.

The minister was good enough to say that because there were technological changes involved, he would examine the question and, I think, examine it seriously. So perhaps I am here under false pretences tonight, because I really do not quarrel with the answer he gave. I thought that if we discussed this matter we might have some fun on the "late show." Imagine the great benefit of having delayed video recordings so that one could play back the final game of the Stanley Cup series, for example, in the summer when one needs something to make one a little cooler. If you cannot love Lucy in the morning, you might be prepared to do so in the afternoon, or possibly in the evening. When I say "you" I am speaking in a very abstract sense, Mr. Speaker. If Soames Forsyte cannot win back the fair Irene in the spring, could she fall for him in the summer?

We have all heard the story about the crazy Canadian who lost a bet on the time that the winning goal would be scored in the hockey game, and then lost twice that amount of money on the instant replay. Just think of the fabulous opportunity it would give that gentleman to lose even more money on delayed video recordings. As I say, the possibilities are rather awesome, and all of this will be before us before we reach another June 11. That prompted my question. I think it is one of the latest developments that affects broadcasting. Let me reminisce for a moment. We know that the Broadcasting Act which we now live under, or perhaps as some broadcasters would say, suffer under, was stimulated by the thrust of cable television. We have great technological changes coming about, not only the ones I have mentioned but those in the trade known as EVR and through Telsat, if the Minister of Communications (Mr. Kierans) is ever able to get it off the ground—and knowing what he does with our mail one is entitled to have some doubt about that.

Be that as it may, those two changes alone and other things that the communications industry has cooked up for us will provide a very exciting, immediate future for Canadi-