

from the security service of either the Department of the Solicitor General or the RCMP, to construct such a list identified as an extra-parliamentary opposition list, and did he at any time circulate such a list among his colleagues in cabinet?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, security within the government is not the responsibility of the Minister of Supply and Services.

[*English*]

**Mr. Oberle:** The next question should obviously be directed to the Solicitor General. I should like to ask him whether he had cause to examine or structure a list such as I have mentioned, a list identified as an extra-parliamentary opposition list? May I ask him on what information he acted in constructing such a list; whether he has ever received such a list from his predecessor in office and whether such a list has been circulated among senior cabinet ministers?

**Miss Bégin:** Senior or junior ministers?

**Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General):** I have not had cause to circulate the type of list referred to by the hon. member. Perhaps I should admit—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh!

**Mr. Fox:**—perhaps I should explain, Mr. Speaker, that in cases where people within the public service take positions where security clearance is required, a departmental security officer will ask for security clearance of the individual involved and that is the extent of the matter.

ALLEGED BLACKLISTING OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES—REFERENCE TO LETTER DATED JUNE 15, 1971

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Solicitor General very directly if he has seen such a letter under date of June 15, 1971, signed by his predecessor in office, and what sort of procedures were used to group names together in the context of an extra-parliamentary opposition group and under whose control and supervision was this done?

**Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, I am unable at the moment, without going over the files in detail, to check out everything that the hon. member has said, and to reply in breadth and depth to his question.

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## ENERGY

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF HOME INSULATION PROGRAM TO CONSERVE ENERGY

**Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The minister announced in December a special assistance

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program for P.E.I. and Nova Scotia amounting to \$63 million and \$11.5 million to assist citizens with insulating their homes and also commercial and industrial users. In view of the fact that the net generation of electricity in Newfoundland now is all from oil-fired steam, that the cost of living and per capita incomes are higher and lower than, and the people of Newfoundland have a need just as great as, people in other provinces, can the minister tell the House whether the government will extend that program to all other provinces of Canada, in addition to P.E.I. and Nova Scotia? If not, why not?

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to learn that the hon. member, by implication, agrees with the importance of the conservation re-insulation program which is offered to the two provinces of Nova Scotia and P.E.I. It is a program that I would very much like to be able to offer to all provinces if we had the funds to do so. The hon. member must know that the reason it was offered to these two provinces is that they are more dependent on oil for their electrical generation than any other province. Indeed, in the case of P.E.I., 100 per cent of their electrical generation comes from oil; in the case of Nova Scotia it is 66 per cent, which is double, I am told, the percentage of the next nearest province.

**Mr. Crosbie:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources realize, or would he agree, that the fact that—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. That preamble sounds very much as though the hon. member is heading for an argument instead of asking a question. Perhaps the hon. member would put a question.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Did the hon. gentleman take into consideration the fact that the average temperature in Newfoundland and Labrador is lower than in P.E.I. and Nova Scotia, that 70 per cent of the households in Newfoundland are oil-fired households, and that the average family expenditure on heating in Newfoundland is higher than in Nova Scotia and P.E.I., or was the fact that these are the only two Liberal governments in Canada a factor that the minister took into consideration?

**Mr. Gillespie:** Mr. Speaker, I think I have already made it quite clear, both a moment ago and on previous occasions, that the reason we did so was the dependence on oil by these two provinces for electrical generation; they both have very high electrical costs; in the case of P.E.I. by far the highest electrical costs in the country, and in the case of Nova Scotia very close to P.E.I. with a substantial increase in the offing.

PARTICIPATION IN MARITIME ENERGY POOL AND CONSTRUCTION OF GENERATING PLANTS

**Mr. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, to the same minister. Now that the minister of energy has announced a plan of federal assistance