

*Oral Questions*

reduction in unemployment because so much of the unemployment is caused by the fact that it is world-wide, that unemployment has gone up by five million over the past year in OECD countries alone, and that many of our trading partners are not in positions, as the hon. member knows, to buy the goods produced by our mines and our industry. Therefore one cannot be certain that, unless there is a world recovery, Canada will surge ahead.

**Mr. Broadbent:** The point is that we are all aware in the House, as indeed the people of the country are aware, that there are problems outside Canada as well as within our borders. But the point the Conference Board has made, and the point that we in this party have made, is that the budget produced by the Liberal Party of Canada, rather than improving the situation, only worsens it. That is the reality.

## REQUEST FOR JOB-CREATION MEASURES

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, since we will have, between now and 1983, more than a million and a half Canadians remaining unemployed, and at least another 10,000 companies going bankrupt, according to the Conference Board—not simply according to us—when will the government produce a single measure which will produce an additional job for an unemployed miner, an additional job for an unemployed auto worker, or an additional job for an unemployed construction worker anywhere in the country? When will the government live up to its obligations to the workers of this land?

• (1430)

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the hon. member asks when those single measures will be produced. I would point out to him that the measure which is now in committee and which is being reported to the House, today or tomorrow, I believe, will have that precise effect of creating jobs in Canada, because it will bring the cost structure in Canada down to a competitive level. It is important for the hon. member and his party to realize that the OECD figures, the figures of the Conference Board, the figures internationally accepted, indicate that inflation in the OECD countries will be at an average of 7.5 per cent in 1982. In Canada it will be around 11 per cent.

We will not be able to create jobs, nor will we be able to sell our products unless we can bring our inflation down. That is why we want to go from an 11 per cent society to a 6 per cent society. It is because the hon. member is not supporting that, that he is more guilty than the government in creating the kind of conditions which make recovery difficult.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## ISRAEL BOMBING OF BEIRUT—CANADIAN POSITION

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In Lebanon, Israeli

forces have cut off water and electricity to West Beirut. They have launched air attacks against West Beirut, including civilian targets. We are told that the Canadian ambassador's residence has been badly damaged. The Israeli Prime Minister says that he wants an unequivocal commitment for the PLO by Friday that they will leave Beirut.

As far as we can see, Canada has taken no initiatives or actions that might help arrive at a solution in that area. Would the Prime Minister tell the House what actions or initiatives we have taken, if any, other than protesting the destruction of our embassy? Could he tell the House why the Canadian ambassador is remaining in Beirut? Is he involved in important negotiations to help get a solution? Why is he being exposed to further danger there if he is not? Could the Prime Minister tell the House what is happening?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, if the hon. member honestly wants a recital of initiatives I will ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs to give the details of those initiatives. I must say that I welcome the hon. member for St. John's West, the opposition spokesman for external affairs. He has at last awakened to the reality of the situation in the Middle East. I think it is pretty shameful that for months we heard questions from both opposition parties about El Salvador, Poland and Afghanistan, but nary a word about the Middle East.

**Mr. Broadbent:** That is not true. You had better read your *Hansard*.

**Mr. Crosbie:** I have asked the Prime Minister a serious question about a serious subject. On June 8 I moved a motion in the House at the same time that he sent a letter about this issue. I am asking him a question about a serious matter affecting the peace of the world. He wants to take some partisan political advantage out of it.

**Mr. Clark:** As he did in Iran.

## REQUEST THAT CANADA UNDERTAKE NEW INITIATIVES

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, I would like to give the Prime Minister another chance to take a serious attitude about this crisis. Would he tell us what initiatives he has taken? He met with a group, last week, including Mr. Stanfield and ex-ambassador Barton, who urged the Prime Minister to take a more active role in this situation in the Middle East. They appealed to him to do that. They asked for Canadian participation in new initiatives to negotiate a political settlement. Is the Prime Minister prepared to do this, or has he done so? If he has not, will he, and if so, when? The time is running out for the one half million civilian people living in West Beirut. It is time for the Prime Minister, the great international statesman, to act if he is concerned about this and not just about his own political neck here in the House of Commons.

**Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Madam Speaker, we deplore the violence which has