

Oral Questions

nity to go to university for the education they need to find work. In view of that fact, will the Secretary of State ask the Minister of Finance to reconsider the freeze that he imposed on the \$5 million that was earmarked for student loans next year in this Tory double whammy of increasing tuition fees on the one hand and reducing student loans on the other?

Hon. Walter McLean (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, let me assure my hon. friend of my deep concern about opportunities for students in our universities. On Monday I will be meeting with provincial Ministers who are responsible for education, and our conversations will include the issue which is, at the first level, the provincial responsibility for funding for universities and the question of tuition fees for students.

Mr. de Corneille: I thank the Minister for his answer.

TUITION FEES QUERY

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my supplementary question to the Deputy Prime Minister, in view of the absence of the Minister of Finance. Before the Minister of Finance imposed this freeze on \$5 million for student loans, did he, in the spirit of dialogue and consultation, consult with Mr. Grossman or any of the provincial Tory Ministers of Finance to see if they were going to raise tuition fees?

Hon. Walter McLean (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, as the Minister responsible for the Canada Student Loans Program, let me indicate to the Hon. Member that the Canada Student Loans Program was adjusted in 1983. The weekly limits were adjusted from \$56.25 to \$100. With the built in escalators for this year, there is a weekly limit to \$105. Therefore, the question of cutting back is erroneous. After a review of the over-all expenditures, it was agreed that the escalators were adequate at this particular time, until there is an opportunity to review the over-all funding with the provinces and set the Canada Student Loans Program in that context.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT CREATED BY TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. She has just finished telling the House that she does not care about the unemployed in this country—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Rodriguez: She does not care about the young unemployed. In light of her report that was tabled in the House yesterday that clearly shows that 8,333 Canadians will be coming on to the unemployment rolls every month as a result of technological change, with serious implications for single

industry communities, can the Minister tell the House, without any flim-flam, what she intends to do about unemployment?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Bring back Judy Erola.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

• (1130)

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the paper that I tabled yesterday in the House of Commons, the paper on training, is a very positive attempt to come to grips with the real problems of technological change, working together with our partners in the economy, in economic and social areas, to tackle the problems of economic change. But a very real part of the problem that we face in developing the highly skilled labour force that we need in this new era is to overcome the negative attitudes that exist toward technological change. The Member is a living example of that kind of negative approach. I would urge him to take a positive view, to read the paper carefully, and to work with us to help bring about the changes that are indeed needed if we are to have that kind of skilled labour force.

Mr. Rodriguez: In view of the fact that the Minister said I should be positive—and I do hope, and sincerely hope, that all the things the Minister projects in the paper will come true—I want to know what the Minister intends to do about unemployment now.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

Miss MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier.

Mr. Gauthier: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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THE CONSTITUTION

QUEBEC UNILINGUAL TRAFFIC TICKET—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Deputy Prime Minister. It deals with previous questions that I asked this week of the Prime Minister which were not answered, and which questions were put to the Minister of Justice which also were not answered. It concerns English-speaking Canadians' right to receive documents in the courts of Quebec in their language. The Prime Minister boasted last spring, and has boasted also over the air waves, that he has defended with great vigour the English-speaking minorities in the Province of Quebec against abuses of Bill 101. Can the Deputy Prime Minister tell the House whether the Government will withdraw its factum from the Supreme Court of Canada?