

LABOUR CONDITIONS

NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED NOT RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour.

According to an article published yesterday, 532,000 Canadians were out of work and were getting unemployment insurance benefits on December 31, 1963. Could the minister tell us whether his department keeps statistics on the number of unemployed who draw no unemployment insurance benefits, on those who just get social assistance benefits and on those who receive nothing at all?

Does the minister intend to publish those statistics also?

[Text]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to take the latter part of my hon. friend's question as notice. In so far as the numbers he has cited are concerned, I should like to advise him that at the end of January of this year the total claimants had been reduced by 15 per cent over a year ago, and the total claims paid from the fund had been reduced by 25 per cent.

[Translation]

Mr. Gregoire: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

When the number of those drawing unemployment insurance benefits in Canada went down by 15 per cent, did the number of unemployed who were no longer getting them increase in the same proportion, that is by 15 per cent?

[Text]

Mr. MacEachen: No, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

Hon. Theogene Ricard (St. Hyacinthe-Bagot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

In view of the fact that, last year, the minister claimed to have so many new projects to carry out in order to provide jobs for the 466,000 unemployed in Canada, could he tell us today if he still has new projects to put forth?

[Text]

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Ricard: What are they?

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Inquiries of the Ministry

URANIUM

INQUIRY AS TO EXTENSION OF STOCKPILING PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenbourg): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Since July 1 marks the end of the government's \$25 million uranium stockpiling program at Elliot Lake, will the Prime Minister inform the house if it is his intention to extend this program?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot make a statement on that matter at the moment, except to say that every possible effort is being made by the federal and provincial governments to give assistance to this community.

PUBLIC WORKS

REQUEST THAT MEMBERS BE INFORMED OF APPROVED PROJECTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): I have a question for the Minister of Public Works. In view of the current effort to remove improper patronage practices, will the minister assure the house that members will be informed of public works projects approved in their ridings?

Hon. J. P. Deschatelets (Minister of Public Works): Well, Mr. Speaker, unless I am mistaken I do not think it is usual to inform members of the house of any projects before those projects are submitted to the house with the estimates. If the hon. member wishes to communicate with me in writing, I shall do the best I can to inform him of any projects that we might have in the future in his riding.

Mr. Aiken: May I ask a supplementary question. Will the minister at least consider providing members with copies of the press releases that are issued?

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RETIREMENT OF JUDGES WHILE JUDGMENTS PENDING

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. I preface it by extending my congratulations to him on occupying that important portfolio. The matter I bring to his attention today has to do with the resignation of judges while still having judgments not completed. I think of the situation in the Exchequer Court of Canada where the resignation of a judge was accepted, although he must have anticipated