

—it is clear that our policies now seem stale. We have no comprehensive program for job creation to propose, we have only crutches.

As more and more Liberal Members of Parliament abandon their party's economic ship, will the Prime Minister now admit, as do his backbenchers, that they do not have a clue about what is happening in the long-term the short term, or what to do about the unemployment crisis in the country?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, if anybody does not have a clue it is members of the New Democratic Party who have spent the whole afternoon quoting members from this side.

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER RESIGN

Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, the quotations go on. The hon. member for Sudbury said, "The country cannot endure a winter like the one we've just been through". On behalf of all members on all sides of the House I ask the Prime Minister if he will not go to the people at this time, when can we expect his resignation as leader of the Liberal party and as Prime Minister of this country?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, that proves what I just said; the hon. member does not have a clue.

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PUBLIC WORKS

REQUEST THAT CONSTRUCTION OF WASHINGTON EMBASSY BE POSTPONED

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Madam Speaker, may I put a question to the Prime Minister. Is the government or the Prime Minister considering postponing the design and construction of the embassy building in Washington because of the economic hard times facing Canada, with unemployment at an all time high, farmers going bankrupt, and small-business men going bankrupt and, if not, why not?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I seem to recall that that very same question was asked last week. The government has not changed its position on this in the past week. If the hon. member is going to ask the question next week, maybe he could suggest other buildings in other countries that should be postponed, because Canada is proceeding with construction across this country and some other embassies in other countries. I will be happy to hear the question next week and see if there is anything new.

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER CONSIDER SPENDING EMBASSY FUNDS IN CANADA

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Madam Speaker, at a time when literally every businessman and every farmer in this

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country is postponing capital construction, the Prime Minister comes out with an answer like that.

I ask the question again, Madam Speaker. Because of the economic difficulties facing people in Canada would the Prime Minister consider saving that \$30 million and spending it in Canada where it might do some good?

I will ask again next week.

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STATUS OF WOMEN

QUERY RESPECTING PAMPHLET ON BATTERED WIVES

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Could she inform the House of the month in which there will be an insert in family allowance cheques regarding the rights and resources available to women who become battered wives? Which month will that insert be included with the cheques?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, given prior notice I could have answered the hon. member's question right away. Unfortunately, I do not have the information in my head but I could send him an exact list of future inserts and their subject matter.

[English]

PROVISION OF SHELTER FOR BATTERED WIVES

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Public Works. When will vacant Crown buildings be made available to groups who wish to provide shelter for battered wives?

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works): Madam Speaker, there is a program and provision under Section 56(1) of the National Housing Act which deals with co-op and non-profit housing. On a number of occasions that provision has been used by some organizations in some areas of the country to provide shelter assistance to wives who are looking for shelter on an emergency basis.

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THE JUDICIARY

NATURE OF CHARACTER REFERENCE PROVIDED BY SOLICITOR GENERAL

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, as a result of some questions being asked about the Solicitor General's intervention in the Mr. English case, I want to ask a short question. What pertinent facts, if any, could the Solicitor General provide that would not have been available from some other source?