

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I believe I did acknowledge the fact that 30 per cent of those jobs were part-time jobs, as I think my colleague, the Minister of Employment and Immigration, acknowledged the other day. But surely the Hon. Member is not saying that 304,000 new jobs during the course of 12 months is not a good record because I believe those same people to whom he referred are saying that it is a very good record, and are encouraging us to achieve more like it.

## GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, I am asking the Minister, and through him, the Government, if he is content with the situation where we are moving at a rapid rate from full-time jobs which are unionized, with standard wages and benefits, to a situation where we are moving to part-time jobs which are low paying, usually not unionized, and without benefits. As the Canadian Council on Welfare showed this week in a report, we are moving toward a situation in which there is a larger number of working poor in this country. Is that what the Minister is satisfied with?

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** No, Mr. Speaker, of course we are not satisfied, and that is the reason why we have introduced the Canadian Jobs Strategy which will benefit some 400,000 people this year. But more to the point, what is important is that we have introduced training allowances for people who are attending on a part-time basis, primarily women and those who are supporters of single-parent families, so that they have a chance to benefit from training for new employment. That is something which was not even contemplated by the former Government.

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[Translation]

## TEXTILE INDUSTRY

## IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING CANADIAN PRODUCTION

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. It is prompted by my meeting earlier this week with the Committee for the Survival of the Textile Industry in Sherbrooke.

Does the Minister know that made-in-Canada textiles account for only 43 per cent of the Canadian consumption of textiles, and would it not be fair that as a minimum, the share of Canadian-sourced textiles, those coming from Canadian producers and industries, represent half the Canadian consumption?

[English]

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I will certainly take the Hon. Member's question as a representation. The suggestion of 50 per cent of the Canadian market being reserved for domestic

producers has been mentioned by various other people and, as the Hon. Member may or may not know, I am meeting with industry and union representatives, for example, Tom Bell of Dominion Textile Limited, this afternoon, and we will certainly bring matters to what I believe will be a constructive conclusion for the industry very shortly.

[Translation]

## REQUEST THAT CANADIAN PRODUCTION HAVE 50 PER CENT SHARE OF MARKET

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** I have a supplementary for the same Minister. On behalf of the Mayor of Sherbrooke, of the Municipal Council for the Industry, in Sherbrooke, of the Industrial Board and the workers of Sherbrooke, I ask whether the Government is indeed ready to take the steps needed to guarantee as a minimum a 50 per cent share of the Canadian textile market to Canadian textile workers and manufacturers?

[English]

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my response to the earlier question, we will take the question as a representation. But, frankly, Mr. Speaker, surely the time has come when opposition Members can start acknowledging some things. For example, according to the Construction Association of Canada, spending on manufacturing is going up 19 per cent between now and next year, and in the year after, 20 per cent.

**Mr. Broadbent:** What's that got to do with the question?

**Mr. Stevens:** Canadians are going to have the factories in order that they can get back to work, and unemployment is coming down.

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## HEALTH

## AIDS—REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION PROGRAM

**Mrs. Pauline Browes (Scarborough Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Canadians have recently received a great deal of conflicting and often misleading information about AIDS. In order to quell the fears of Canadians and to ensure that accurate information on AIDS is available, will the Government initiate a factual awareness program at the local level in order to inform Canadians about this tragic disease?

● (1440)

**Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is correct, and I think Members of the House generally share her viewpoint. The time available in Question Period does not allow me to get into a full discussion of this issue. However, there has been the appointment of the National Advisory Committee on AIDS, as well as the publication called *AIDS in Canada: What You*