

Oral Questions

Mr. Fox: The agreement was made public by this government during the course of that inquiry in response to a request by the inquiry. There was never any question of keeping the agreement completely secret.

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF COPY OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
FORCE AND NATIONAL REVENUE

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, since the agreement of 1972 between the RCMP and the Department of National Revenue has been disclosed in the Laycraft inquiry, and the minister has referred to it here, is he or the Minister of National Revenue prepared to table a copy of that agreement for the purposes of the House?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member has not received a copy of the joint press release which has been sent out by both the Minister of National Revenue and myself. We have issued a public statement to which we have annexed the complete text of that memorandum of understanding between his department and mine. If it is the desire of the House, I am prepared to table copies of it in both official languages for the purposes of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): And supporting documents.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE ATLANTIC REGION—GOVERNMENT
MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, my question could have been directed to the Minister of Regional and Economic Expansion had he been here; but I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Given the absence in the throne speech of any new or innovative measures to combat high unemployment in the Atlantic area particularly, can the minister indicate to the House, in order to understand the basis of his intervention later on in the throne speech debate, whether he essentially agrees with the Economic Council of Canada that there is in fact an under-utilized economic resource there and that a stimulation would not overly generate inflationary pressures, or whether he agrees with his predecessor that any innovative intervention in this area by using fiscal matters might over-pressurize the inflationary tendencies? Which approach does he intend to use in directing himself and his government's intention toward unemployment in the Atlantic area?

● (1446)

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I shall have an opportunity to speak on that problem tomorrow [Mr. Fox.]

evening at eight o'clock when I shall address the House of Commons.

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LABOUR RELATIONS

RADIO-MUTUEL CONFLICT—POSSIBILITY OF FEDERAL
INTERVENTION

Mr. Irénée Pelletier (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour.

The Radio-Mutuel dispute has been going on for more than nine months in stations at Trois-Rivières, Sherbrooke, Quebec City and Montreal without a solution in sight, and management seems unwilling to negotiate. I wonder if the minister would inform the House whether his department intends to act in this dispute.

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I should advise the hon. member that we have already intervened in the matter. A mediator moved into the situation last Friday, and I hope he will be successful in resolving the dispute.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

POSSIBLE RETURN OF CROSS KIDNAPPERS—GOVERNMENT
ACTION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. In light of the fact that in the Speech from the Throne there was some suggestion regarding amendments to be made to the Criminal Code, can the Minister of Justice inform the House and Canadian people if there is any suggestion of an application by the Premier of Quebec or anyone else concerning the voluntary exiles who were connected with the Cross kidnapping? If they wish to return to Canada will they go through the due process of law and be tried by courts as to their innocence or guilt?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that the apparent request made to the Premier of Quebec has been passed on to any federal authorities at this point. There are outstanding charges and warrants of arrest against the persons involved laid by the authorities in the province of Quebec. If the persons involved return to Canada, I would presume those warrants of arrest and charges would be proceeded with. Of course that would be a decision within the responsibilities of the province of Quebec. When the question was asked, it would appear to me that the indications from this House show that we would all want the province of Quebec to act on those warrants.

In so far as requests for pardons are concerned, there is no provision in federal law for the granting of pardons to people