

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

bringing forward recommendations on this subject to the government. In so far as the report falls within my jurisdiction, may I say that I have referred it to the Director of Investigation and Research under the Combines Investigation Act and, should any changes in the act be indicated, we will consider them when we revise the act after receipt of the report on competition being prepared by the Economic Council of Canada.

I think however that the parliamentary committee, which will in due course be looking at the revised Combines Investigation Act, will be interested in knowing at that time to what extent the National Hockey League has paid attention to the recommendations in the task force report.

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****DELAYS IN RECEIPT OF CHEQUES**

**Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that undue delay in the receipt of cheques for unemployment insurance benefits is causing difficulties for social and family services at many points across the country, will the minister look into the possibility of having unemployment insurance cheques forwarded more promptly.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Blame the Post Office.

**Hon. Bryce S. Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** Information from the Unemployment Insurance Commission indicates that cheques are being received three or four days faster than was the case a year ago. However if the hon. gentleman has a specific case in mind and would care to present it to the Minister of Labour, I will be glad to intervene personally.

**TELEVISION****C.R.T.C. DIRECTIVE ON PURCHASE OF STATIONS**

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State. It concerns circumstances under which television stations may be sold. Has the Canadian Radio-Television Commission received new directions from the government which would now enable one member of the C.T.V. network to buy another station of that network?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It seems to me that the question as asked is argumentative. If there is urgency the hon. member may want to have the subject matter debated at the time of adjournment.

**Mr. McCleave:** May I speak to the point of order, Mr. Speaker? My question is not argumentative but rather asks whether there has been a change in government direction to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission. It was not meant to be argumentative but simply to elicit information.

**INCOME TAX****EXEMPTION INCREASES IN BUDGETARY PROPOSALS**

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** I have a question for the Minister of Finance. The Economic Council has set new poverty levels at \$1,800 a year for single persons and \$3,000 for married couples. Will the minister in preparing his new budget consider raising income tax exemption levels from \$1,000 for single persons and \$2,000 for married couples who have survived 21 years of inflation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member has made a suggestion which she must assume will be considered.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** We certainly hope so.

[*Translation*]

**SPORTS****QUEBEC—INQUIRY AS TO SUBSIDIZATION OF AMATEUR PROGRAM**

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Since he met with the Quebec Minister of Tourism last week to discuss amateur sports, could he say whether an agreement has been reached and, if so, what is the amount of the grant?

[*English*]

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have had discussions. I hope that within the next week or so I will be in a position to announce the decision at which the government has arrived as a result of these discussions.