

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL DEFENCE****EFFECT OF IMBALANCE UNDER UNITED STATES-CANADA
PRODUCTION SHARING AGREEMENT ON FUTURE
CANADIAN PROGRAMS**

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of questions I would like to ask the Minister of National Defence arising out of his discussions with United States Secretary of Defence Laird, but I will accept Your Honour's admonishment. Arising out of his discussions with the Secretary of Defence, Mr. Laird, and having in mind particularly the imbalance Mr. Laird has drawn to our attention with reference to the 12-year old defence production sharing agreement, will this be a major determining factor with respect to programs that we have in the offing such as the replacement for the Argus, will we go ahead with the Orion or will the economic factor not be a consideration?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): I would like to thank the hon. member for giving me notice of the question. I confirm that the primary dominating factor will be the defence consideration. With regard to the military question as to what position will be taken on the long-range patrol aircraft, I confirm that no decision has been made. While the primary consideration will be the military one, a very important subsidiary one will be the opportunities through this program for creating further employment for Canadians.

Mr. Forrestall: Can the minister give the assurance I am sure all Canadians are looking for that there will be no serious reduction in the number of jobs available to Canadians in the coming year, 1971-72, as a result of the attitude of the United States with respect to defence sharing? In other words, are we going to lose any jobs in the next year?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): That is rather difficult to predict, Mr. Speaker. It depends on United States orders. With regard to defence programs, either in the United States or Canada, obviously there is not as much buying in Canada as there was in years past. I cannot give that definite assurance.

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YOUTH**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—SUFFICIENCY OF
FUNDS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CRITERIA AND
OBJECTIVES**

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): I had hoped that today, Mr. Speaker, I might have been able to direct this question either to the Secretary of State or to his parliamentary secretary. In view of the importance of the Opportunities for Youth program, would the Prime Minister tell us, now that the deadline has passed and the projects have been received, whether there will be sufficient funds available to cover the projects in respect of which applications have been made and, second, when we may expect a more complete statement on the criteria

[Mr. Andras.]

and objectives involved since there is uncertainty in the country as to the extent to which this program will help those in need of jobs so that they will be in a position to return to school in the fall?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I did discuss this matter with the Secretary of State following the hon. member's question yesterday. He tells me he will bring the subject back to cabinet in order that the success of the program, together with various questions raised by the hon. member, may be assessed. I am sure he will wish to report in due course on the success of the program which he tells me is very great.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): I am grateful to the Prime Minister for his assistance in this regard. Can he tell us how soon we may expect a more complete statement from the Secretary of State, having regard to the shortness of the time available and the large number of students who are even now coming on to the job market?

An hon. Member: Very shortly.

Mr. Trudeau: I heard the answer from over there, Mr. Speaker. I hope it will be very shortly.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In view of the statement by the Secretary of State that one in three of these projects may have to be rejected because the \$15 million allocation is not sufficient, and bearing in mind the disappointment which many who have worked hard preparing these projects will undoubtedly feel, may I ask whether the \$15 million is a fixed sum or whether the government would be prepared to consider increasing it so that all legitimate projects submitted can be accommodated?

Mr. Trudeau: The \$15 million or thereabouts was part of a larger sum amounting to \$57 million, I believe, set aside for summer projects. In considering the report to which I have just referred, we shall see whether there is any money left over from some of the other projects and, if so, it might be reassigned. This may not be practicable, however, because according to interim reports the government's program has been effective and successful in most areas.

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AGRICULTURE**ASSISTANCE TO APPLE INDUSTRY BECAUSE OF IMPORTS**

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): I should like to address this question to the Minister of Agriculture. Has the minister made representations to the Minister of National Revenue with a view to the necessary action being taken to bring some relief to the hard-pressed apple industry by curbing the importation of apples and apple products?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There have been several interdepartmental meetings respecting that matter.