

Oral Questions

pointed out in the release you have before you, of doing more if necessary.

INQUIRY WHETHER SOREL AND MONTREAL EMPLOYEES CAN EXPECT SAME RIGHTS AS QUEBEC CITY WORKERS

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. The Minister did not tell us why he did not contribute the \$3.7 million, but he will recognize that the same problems exist at Marine Industries in Sorel and at Versatile Vickers in Montreal. Can the Minister now promise that the employees of Marine Industries in Sorel and Versatile Vickers in Montreal will have the same rights and the same programs as the workers in Quebec City?

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there is no magic recipe to solve employment problems. We analysed a particular situation in Quebec City and made an appropriate response. If we are asked to intervene in other areas, not only in Quebec, but throughout Canada, we shall do so according to the needs identified.

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[English]

PENITENTIARIES

PORT-CARTIER PRISON—REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER APPEAR BEFORE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I want to return to the Deputy Prime Minister and rephrase a question which was posed before. I do not think the Government heard it right. The Steering Committee of the Committee on Justice, of which I am pleased to be a member, passed a motion moved by the Hon. Member for Burnaby that the Prime Minister should appear before that committee and answer questions on Port-Cartier. My question is simple. Will the Prime Minister appear before that committee?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the President of the Treasury Board has indicated he is prepared to provide all the information necessary in connection with this particular issue. He said he is prepared to appear before the committee as long as is necessary, and to provide all the necessary information. I am not sure whether it is customary for Prime Ministers to appear before standing committees, other than the fact that the Hon. Members across the way want to do a little grandstanding.

Mr. Nystrom: Cover-up.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): They couldn't draw a crowd on their own.

GOVERNMENT'S POSITION

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, given that the Prime Minister's Office has been involved in this matter of the location of the prison, and given that the Steering Committee did not ask for the President of the Treasury Board, why will the Government not accommodate the Steering Committee, and the Canadian people who want to know these answers, and let the Prime Minister appear before the Committee on Justice?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether the Hon. Member is interested in information or in creating a bit of a scene. I think, quite frankly, if he is interested in information, the President of the Treasury Board has given information.

Mr. Broadbent: Misinformation.

Mr. Mazankowski: The President of the Treasury Board is indeed responsible. He is prepared to appear before the committee and give the Hon. Member and other Hon. Members all the information they require.

Mr. Nystrom: Cover-up.

Mr. Mazankowski: It is not information the Hon. Members are after, it is really something else. They are just doing a little grandstanding, I submit.

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT NEWFOUNDLAND—LABRADOR VIADUCT

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. In April of 1985 the president of a Quebec-based consulting firm, LMBDS-Sidam Inc., Mr. Pierre Lajoie, wrote to the Prime Minister outlining a proposal to undertake the construction of a \$7 billion jetty between the island of Newfoundland and Labrador. I sent a copy of the proposal to the Deputy Prime Minister. Can he advise the House whether or not the Government is considering supporting financially, for the purposes of economic, environmental and social impact studies, this proposal by the Quebec-based consulting firm?

● (1450)

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I have just received the document to which the Hon. Member has referred. I have not had a chance to read it but I will certainly take it under advisement.