

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

number of complaints concerning the payment of unemployment insurance claims—I have a letter here from a member of the board of referees in the city of London, Ontario—will the minister provide some vehicle by which members of the House from all parties may have an opportunity to question members of the commission concerning their administrative practices and the many complaints that it regularly takes five or six weeks to pay claims? Would the minister, who is very sympathetic to labour and labouring people, do something? He would make himself very very popular if he would.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is now making a speech. He has asked the question and the minister might be allowed to reply.

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I had a report on my desk this morning indicating that the number of complaints tabulated by the commission has in fact decreased over the last few weeks. When my estimates come before the appropriate committee the hon. gentleman will have full opportunity to ask further questions. However, I am quite prepared to arrange for an interview between the hon. gentleman and the chief commissioner of the Unemployment Insurance Commission at the hon. gentleman's convenience so that he can bring up these problems personally.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Could the minister be persuaded to make arrangements when the new session commences to have his estimates brought on early so that it will not be next summer before the matter is discussed? Also, since the minister has been kind enough to suggest that he would arrange a meeting between myself and the administrator of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, would he include other members who have received all sorts of complaints as well?

**Mr. Mackasey:** I would prefer to do that, Mr. Speaker, rather than have the civil servants of the Unemployment Insurance Commission rapped with an unfair charge periodically in the House.

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**FINANCE****CANADA SAVINGS BONDS—INQUIRY AS TO PROTEST REGARDING ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** I have a question for the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister or his department received any protest or comment from the Ontario Consumer Protection Service that the advertisements of the Bank of Canada and/or the Department of Finance with regard to Canada savings bonds are in direct breach of the Consumer Protection Act of Ontario?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker. The advertisements I have seen indicate that Canada savings bonds are something that should be invested in by every Canadian.

[Mr. Nesbitt.]

**INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY**

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. Has Mr. Donald Peacock been appointed a press officer in London, England, and is this the same person who wrote the life history of the Prime Minister before the last election, a very notable work of fiction?

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**AGRICULTURE****EGGS—SUGGESTED ACTION TO CONTROL IMPORTS FROM UNITED STATES**

**Mr. J. G. Lind (Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. My question is prompted by the minister's announcement of a fowl slaughter program to stabilize egg supplies. How does the minister expect his program to stabilize egg supplies when I understand that eggs are being imported into the Toronto area from the United States at a price which enables the importer to sell his product at a lower cost than the local producer? Could this be considered dumping and is there any way that the government can place a surcharge on these imported eggs to protect our egg producers?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I understand that a very small quantity of eggs was imported from the United States under special circumstances. The price of eggs in Ontario has increased about eight or ten cents per dozen in the last week or so and of course this makes the Canadian market somewhat more attractive to American producers. In so far as dumping is concerned, if we can establish that United States eggs are being offered or sold in Canada at a lower price than in the United States then anti-dumping provisions can apply.

**Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. Will the minister tell the House whether these United States eggs being sold in Canada have to be marked as such and, if not, will he take action to ensure that they are marked as U.S. eggs on the grocery shelves?

**Mr. Olson:** Mr. Speaker, I am inclined to believe that these eggs were not put on the market at all but perhaps went to the breaking plants.

**BUTTER—IMPORTATION FROM UNITED STATES OR NEW ZEALAND**

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. May I ask whether currently or within the last month the Canadian Dairy Commission or the department has imported butter from the United States or New Zealand?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** No, Mr. Speaker, they have not and there may be no imports for several weeks and perhaps months. However, the projec-