

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I asked the hon. gentleman to be a little more precise as to the region he wanted covered. As the hon. member knows, in some parts of the area to which he is referring perhaps ships cannot decrease their speed because of the danger of currents. As soon as I have the specific information I will be happy to send someone to see if a speed limit can be established.

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MANPOWER

ALLEGED USE OF MANPOWER OFFICES TO SUPPLY STRIKEBREAKERS TO POTASH MINE IN SASKATCHEWAN—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Will he inform the House whether it is the policy of officials or counsellors of manpower offices to interview and provide prospective workers to industry and employers in circumstances where a labour dispute is in being? More specifically, are manpower offices being used to supply strikebreakers?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not listening to the earlier part of the question. Perhaps the hon. member would repeat it.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I asked the minister whether it was the policy of officials or counsellors of manpower offices to interview and provide prospective workers to industry and employers in circumstances where a labour dispute is in being and, more specifically, is it the policy for manpower offices to interview and provide strikebreakers?

Mr. Andras: Most certainly not, Mr. Speaker, and if there is any evidence of such a suggestion I would like the hon. member to let me have it.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I should like to know whether the minister is ready to investigate the specific circumstances of this being done through the offices in Saskatoon for the potash mine owned by Duval?

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FLOODS

HIGH WATER LEVELS IN GREAT LAKES—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON ASSISTING ONTARIO RESIDENTS SUFFERING PROPERTY DAMAGE

Mr. Bill Kempling (Halton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, subsequent to representations made by the Ontario Provincial Secretary for Resources Development at the beginning of March of this year—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Kempling: Wait for it, fellows. Subsequent to those representations and representations by his provincial Ministers of the Environment and of Agriculture and Food,

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has the federal government decided to change its present position of refusing to assist those suffering from flood and erosion damage in the province of Ontario until the province has spent a minimum of \$8 million, and assisting only to the extent that by the time total expenditures were \$40 million the federal contribution would still be only 50 per cent?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, when the provincial ministers were here they were impressed by our policies and they went home saying they would be developing policies which would fit in with ours. I have yet to hear officially from them.

Mr. Kempling: Mr. Speaker, the minister has on numerous occasions referred to the fact that he has had no contact with the province of Ontario on the matter of erosion. I am surprised to hear that he has had this—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is hardly a supplementary question.

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CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SUGGESTED INCREASE IN PRERETIREMENT ALLOWANCES OF MINERS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the fact that a motion earlier today which would have arranged to assist financially preretired coal miners was rejected by the government, may I ask the minister responsible for the Cape Breton Development Corporation whether he would immediately contact the president of that Crown corporation and members of the board and urge them to take the necessary steps to bring preretirement allowances up to a decent level, at the very least commensurate with the high cost of living?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): I not only will, Mr. Speaker, but I have on several occasions been in touch with the president of Devco, most recently last evening at approximately five o'clock. There is a meeting tomorrow of the board of directors and I asked specifically that this matter to which the hon. member has referred be considered at that time.

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IMMIGRATION

POSSIBLE GRANTING OF WORK PERMITS TO THOSE WITHOUT CITIZENSHIP STATUS IN VIEW OF LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Mr. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the remarkable drop in unemployment rates announced today, and particularly the rate of 4.8 per cent in Toronto, for which the government is to be congratulated, will the minister tell the House whether