

\* *Oral Questions*

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## SUGGESTED REVIEW OF TARIFF BOARD REPORT ON COMPUTER INDUSTRY

**Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct my final supplementary question to the Minister of State for Science and Technology? As the unemployment situation is undoubtedly partly to be blamed on the lack of productivity in Canadian industry, and as Canadian productivity gains were literally the lowest among the seven countries attending the London conference, would the minister indicate if he has reviewed this dragging of Canadian productivity gains, to determine why we are faltering so badly? Specifically, has he reviewed the Tariff Board report of the computer industry, which has recommended full-scale tariff reductions with respect to that industry in the earnest hope that productivity will be helped in Canada?

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, no, I have not reviewed that report, but I shall certainly be pleased to do so.

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[Translation]

## MANPOWER

## ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF JOBS TO BE CREATED IN QUEBEC

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Considering that only 5,000 jobs were created in the province of Quebec those last 12 months, that the labour force increased by 53,000 and that in his last budget the Minister of Finance promised the creation of 150,000 jobs in Canada, can the minister tell the House how many of the 150,000 jobs promised are going to be created, particularly in the province of Quebec?

[English]

**Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I do not want to enter a statistical debate with the hon. member without having the figures at my fingertips. I have attended the committee considering the manpower estimates, and in the last eight or nine meetings we have gone over many of these statistics. It should be borne in mind, as the Acting Prime Minister said, that something like 110,000 jobs have been created—

**Mr. Stevens:** The figure should have been 240,000.

**Mr. Cullen:**—since December, up to the present. It is significant that employment in fact increased in Quebec over this past month. I do not know whether that is a month over month aberration. I will take a very close look at that, because the rates also fell in Manitoba by a significant number. I do not want to judge future programs on the basis of those two figures which seem to be an aberration. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, I ought to have said that unemployment went up.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

[Translation]

## MEASURES TO IMPROVE ECONOMY OF QUEBEC

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Considering the conditions in Quebec and the importance of restoring economic development which is an essential short-term objective at the present time, and in view of the interest shown by this government in national unity, could the Minister of Manpower and Immigration tell us what are the concrete steps which his government intends to take to restore a more satisfactory economic climate in Quebec. This is important to provide Quebecers with the evidence of economic development within a constitutional context. If such is the case could the minister make at least a few suggestions or recommendations to restore economic development in Quebec in the near future?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. This is surely an overly general question to put during the oral questions period.

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[English]

## INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

**Mr. Gus MacFarlane (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker,—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. MacFarlane:**—my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Would the minister inform me whether anyone in his department has entered into a copyright arrangement with any members of my staff for the use of my name in recent publications, the use of which might cast aspersions on my good character?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. MacFarlane:** In other words, did he ever request permission to use the words, "Garbage Gus"?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Alexander:** That question was an abuse of the question period.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** That question is garbage.

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## ENERGY

## POSSIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING RAILWAY AS ALTERNATIVE TO NORTHERN PIPELINE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, the general appearance of the member opposite would indicate that he does not lift up garbage. I direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and ask him what, if anything, has been done in the last two or three years