

Inquiries of the Ministry

and I have been unable to find any record of any request by the union, by the company involved, or by the Premier of Newfoundland or the government of Newfoundland for federal participation in this labour dispute. I would imagine the fundamental reason for this is that the dispute is within provincial jurisdiction.

Mr. Peddle: In view of the apparent impotence of the Newfoundland government in this matter and in view of the disastrous economic impact of this strike at Buchans, is there any way within the law by which the minister's acknowledged skill in such matters can be brought into play to affect a settlement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**INTERRUPTION OF DEBATE ON INCOME TAX BILL TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION EFFECTING TAX CUTS AND OTHER ECONOMIC MEASURES**

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is actually one that was left by the wayside yesterday and is relevant to the original question asked by the Leader of the Opposition. I direct it to the Prime Minister. In light of the fact that the government has reintroduced Bill C-244, has the Prime Minister backed down from or changed his insistence on Monday that new economic measures will not be considered until after passage of the tax bill? If so, will the government introduce legislation that will bring in tax cuts and other ways of stimulating the economy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, we always attach the utmost importance to getting on with the debate on the tax bill. The country knows that if the bill is going to be effective and benefit millions of people from January 1 on we will have to have it adopted not too late in the fall. If there can be agreement among the house leaders on bringing other items of legislation in for very short periods, the government will not be absolutely rigid about this. The important thing is that all hon. members realize what ultimate deadline they are working against if the tax reform bill is going to become law in time to be effective as of January 1.

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MANPOWER**ACTION RESPECTING REFUSAL OF APPLICANTS FOR WORK TO ACCEPT SUITABLE JOBS**

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It arises from a number of complaints that I have received as I am sure many other hon. members have also. In view of the skyrocketing costs of welfare, what steps are the manpower offices across Canada taking to follow through on jobs that have been referred to suitable applicants but which have been refused because the persons involved wish to take welfare?

[Mr. Mackasey.]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would want to prepare a full report in answer to a question of that magnitude involving as it does relations between the provincial authorities and the federal authorities.

Mr. Hales: Can the minister assure the House that he will make such a report very soon?

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• (2:50 p.m.)

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

A few minutes ago the hon. minister admitted that there have been many lay-offs throughout the country and primarily in the province of Quebec.

The premier of Quebec stated last Sunday in Hull that he has created 90,000 jobs during the year. Is the hon. minister—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Caouette: —I see they are prompt to applaud on the other side, over there. Is the minister convinced that 90,000 new jobs have been created, or is it not rather that 90,000 new lay-offs have taken place in Quebec?

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING PRICE AND WAGE CONTROLS**

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address my question to the Prime Minister.

On November 17, 1941, the government of the Right Hon. Mackenzie King decided to control prices and salaries. In view of the current economic situation in North America, would the Prime Minister advise the House whether there will be a new control of prices and salaries to celebrate this thirtieth anniversary?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that we overlooked this anniversary, since the hon. member is reminding us that it is today. Instead of introducing such measures, the government believes that Canadians should ponder over the circumstances which made it possible for those measures to be successful during the last war, before asking that they again be invoked in peace time.

[English]

Mr. Baldwin: As long as this government is in power, there will always be emergencies.