

contracts and I hope that I shall soon be able to announce a new contract with a company from Winnipeg. I must say that as far as aeronautics are concerned the Winnipeg area is privileged in comparison with the other parts of Canada.

[English]

**Mr. McKenzie:** As the CAE plant in Winnipeg is laying off its employees—there is now only a skeleton staff left—will any of these new contracts be allotted to that plant?

[Translation]

**Mr. Goyer:** Mr. Speaker, I must say that Transair, for instance, hired many employees and will continue to do so during the coming year. Bristol Aerospace engaged more workers than last year and, I repeat again, the general aeronautical situation in Winnipeg is much more advantageous than in any other region of Canada.

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[English]

### MANPOWER

#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES— GOVERNMENT ACTION TO COUNTERACT

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In the light of the ever increasing unemployment rate in the Atlantic provinces, is the minister in a position today to announce what special efforts are being made, or what new programs may be implemented, to deal with this serious situation?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** I am not in a position today to announce a program of the nature referred to by the hon. member. Obviously, these matters are under serious and constant review. When a decision is made it will be announced in the House.

**Mr. Muir:** Having in mind the tragic unemployment rate on Cape Breton Island where it is ranging at the moment between 15 and 20 per cent, has the minister made special representations to the Minister of Finance regarding this serious question so that possibly after June 23 something may be done?

● (1140)

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, I do not think I could elaborate on my previous answer, except to reiterate that these matters are under very serious consideration, reflecting our concern for them.

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### AIR TRANSPORT

#### FARE INCREASES—POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION PRIOR TO DECISION BY CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION— SUGGESTED DISALLOWANCE BY MINISTER

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. May I ask the minister whether the air fare increases will go into effect on

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Monday regardless whether or not a decision has been handed down at that time by the Canadian Transport Commission?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I have no reason to believe they are not going to be implemented.

**Mr. Murta:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, which relates to an article in the *Montreal Gazette* this morning which said an increase would be brought down regardless whether or not a decision has been made at that time. Since the minister has the power, with cabinet approval, under section 64(1) of the National Transportation Act to suspend or disallow the increases, why is he not taking steps to do so? If he is taking steps to do so, would he report to the House?

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I think I have already mentioned to the House what steps I have taken, in my discussions with the airlines, in order to protect those who are located in the extreme parts of this country. Outside of that, the hon. member has only to look at the financial situation of the airlines to see there is only one way to improve the situation, and that is to increase fares.

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[Translation]

### MANPOWER

#### LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—SUGGESTED INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PROGRAMS ACCEPTED

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, since unemployment increases at an alarming rate, especially in the province of Quebec and in my area, may I ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he plans to authorize in the immediate future the extension of LIP projects now under way and, secondly, to accept a certain number of others which have been presented and are extremely valuable, in order to reduce unemployment effects in Quebec with the assistance of private enterprise?

[English]

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, it is very similar to the previous question asked by another hon. member a few minutes ago. I would have to say that it would be raising false hopes for sponsors of LIP projects to expect an extension past the period for which their contract calls. Any other measures that might be decided upon, as I indicated earlier, will be announced in the House in due course.

[Translation]

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance.

A moment ago, the Minister of Finance informed the House that he will bring down his budget on June 23, that is 30 days from today. I should like to ask him whether he will consider in the meantime the fact that unemployment has become an excessively serious problem and that considerable funds will be earmarked for the Department of Manpower and Immigration to implement many valuable