

Oral Questions

bring to a halt the plans of a number of provinces to extend their medical services?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the current negotiations was not to extend medical services as such, but health services generally, more specifically to extend the services provided now under hospital insurance plans and try to cover some other services which are not yet provided, in exchange for the introduction of systems which are more effective than those applied by certain provinces. These negotiations were opened a few months ago, and I see no reason to stop or slow them down. Quite the contrary, I think that the Minister of Finance's decision should facilitate and accelerate decisions in this area. However, there must be two parties to negotiations. Of course, if either of the provinces the hon. member referred to does not take part in the discussions, negotiations are impossible. My department could not negotiate all by itself.

[*English*]

METHOD OF MAKING FUNDS AVAILABLE TO PROVINCES TO TAKE CARE OF EXTRA COST OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have one supplementary for the Prime Minister. Considering that the appropriate minister in Manitoba has already cancelled negotiations as a result of the budget and that the appropriate minister of the province of Ontario has indicated he wants to cancel negotiations as a result of the unilateral action taken by the federal government, and in view of the fact that this is going to cost the province of Ontario alone an additional \$75 million for medical services, directly because of the decision taken by the federal government, does the Prime Minister intend by way of tax transfer points or by some other means making funds available to the provinces in order that they can pick up the extra cost of immediate medical services in Canada?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker—

An hon. Member: He doesn't trust you, Pierre.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lalonde: I have before me the telegram from the minister of health of the province of Manitoba. It does not say exactly what the hon. member has just said.

[*English*]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Could I answer the supplementary, Mr. Speaker?

Some hon. Members: No.

An hon. Member: Wait for it.

Mr. Trudeau: Perhaps I had better wait for the supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Rimouski.

[*Mr. Broadbent.*]

Mr. Broadbent: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Sit down.

An hon. Member: Three o'clock.

Some hon. Members: Order.

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[*Translation*]

CRIMINAL CODE

REQUEST FOR REFERENDUM ON RESTORATION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Solicitor General.

Considering the increase in homicides and offences of all kinds and the wishes of various police forces throughout Canada, the Quebec Provincial Police in particular, does the minister intend to introduce a measure authorizing a national referendum on the restoration of the death penalty?

[*English*]

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker.

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FINANCE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS ON WHICH BUDGET BASED

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance and the Acting Minister of Finance, perhaps I could put my question to the Prime Minister. In order for the Minister of Finance and the government to project levels of anticipated revenues from various sources they must have some idea concerning the level of economic activity during the rest of this fiscal year. Would the Prime Minister reveal to the House the economic assumptions upon which his budget is based, particularly his projection for real growth in the economy in the 1975-76 fiscal year.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Well, Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that the budget which was delivered by the Minister of Finance corresponded to the projections he has for the future. I do not believe it is customary to indicate in any precise terms what those figures are. He referred to the conflicting views on the economy by various people but indicated his own choice.

NUMBER OF NEW JOBS EXPECTED TO BE CREATED BY BUDGETARY MEASURES—GOVERNMENT ESTIMATE OF UNEMPLOYED

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary again is for the Prime Minister. Considering that many thousand Canadians are concerned about the effect of the Canadian economic recession on their jobs would the Prime Minister tell the House, as the