

helpful. As I have indicated, we have not been very happy about the way in which the International Control Commission has operated. We do not want to repeat that sort of experience.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As the minister has indicated, our experience with the International Control Commission has been nothing but unsatisfactory. Are we under the present conditions considering withdrawing from that particular body?

**Mr. Sharp:** No, Mr. Speaker.

### LABOUR CONDITIONS

#### REQUEST FOR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND OTHER MEASURES TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the figures which were released today, showing an unemployment figure for the month of April of almost 5½ per cent and involving some 435,000 unemployed persons, I ask the Prime Minister whether he intends to speed up the presentation to the house of legislation to set up a Canada Development Corporation and to establish industrial incentives and any other measures that will help to provide jobs in the near future?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** With regard to legislation, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion said a few days ago that he would soon introduce his bill. The government has been a bit inhibited during the past weeks in the advancing of legislation, and we hope that our progress will now be aided by the opposition.

[Translation]

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Prime Minister has just said that for the last two or three weeks the government could not bring in legislation to eradicate unemployment. Why did it not do that instead of introducing Bill C-150?

[English]

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the legislation which has been holding up the house is now disposed of, and in view of the fact that the legislation of the minister dealing with regional development has not yet been introduced, would the Prime Minister

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

undertake to have that legislation introduced within the next few days and give it top priority over anything else on the order paper?

**Mr. Trudeau:** We do not have the same conception of planning as the hon. member. His top priorities change every day with what he reads in the newspapers. We announce ours.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, at least I have some priorities.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**An hon. Member:** How do you like that?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** I ask the Prime Minister when the government intends to come out of its lotus-eating, never-never land and do something about the economic problems facing this country.

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that some 43 per cent of those unemployed have been unemployed for more than four months, is this a matter of concern to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, and would he consider making a statement to the house in the near future as to any plans he may have to put forward with regard to easing the difficulties from which these people have been suffering during a prolonged period of unemployment?

**An hon. Member:** Let them eat cake.

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend will have noticed that, as the figures reveal, Canada's labour force is now past the eight million mark.

**Mr. Woolliams:** So what?

**Mr. MacEachen:** It is of some interest to observe that 7.6 million Canadians are employed at the present time.

So the notion of insisting upon the unemployment side does not give a proper perspective to the economic situation in Canada. There has been an improvement in total employment from month to month and year to year. There has been a decline in unemployment from month to month. But there has been an unusually large increase in the labour force. My hon. friends will be interested in knowing that year to year the