

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, the communiqué states that this company would receive—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): "Would."

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Winnipeg North.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT FORECAST FOR MONTREAL—SOURCE OF MINISTER'S INFORMATION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In light of the statement by the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion in Montreal on Monday that that city would have more unemployed this coming winter than all the maritime provinces, could the minister check with his colleague and get the source of that estimate and also find out whether there are any estimates for the rest of the country?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have the impression that this question was asked yesterday or the day before by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie.

[Translation]

The hon. member could ask another question since I ruled out the first one. The hon. member may ask his question now.

QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT FORECAST AS TO UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, since the question just asked by the hon. member was put yesterday while the minister was not here, would the latter be now in a position to answer, in order that we may know if the government had any extrapolations to the effect that unemployment would reach 12 per cent in Quebec next winter?

Since the minister was not here yesterday, the Prime Minister undertook to see that someone would answer in his place. Can the minister do it know?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure, because I was not in the House yesterday, to what figures the hon. member is referring.

[Translation]

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

Yesterday the Prime Minister told the House that he would refer this matter to the minister of manpower and pointed out that it had to do with the statement made in Montreal the day before by the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. I think the minister should be aware of his colleague's statement and reply to that question.

[English]

FISHERIES

INCLUSION OF CONSERVATION OF OFFSHORE RESOURCES IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION ON NEW TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Fisheries. In light of the recent failure to reach an understanding with the U.S.S.R. on the conservation of offshore fisheries, is it the intention of the government to propose that a fisheries agreement be made part of the pending negotiations over a new economic agreement with the U.S.S.R. and, if so, when may we expect details of such an important agreement to be made public?

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Ask George Hees.

Mr. Hees: I know more about it than your boys do.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, we have not failed to reach an understanding with the U.S.S.R. We have made various submissions. We hope we will be able to carry our points and get the U.S.S.R. to agree to our proposals. It would have been a help, however, if members opposite had been present to make representations at the external affairs committee when the Premier of the U.S.S.R. was here and attended the meeting.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crouse: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, as the member for South Shore I was present when Mr. Kosygin visited Canada and met with the minister and members of the external affairs committee.

Mr. Davis: Why didn't you speak up?

Mr. Crouse: Why didn't I speak up, the minister asks. The reason I did not speak up was that the whole meeting was entirely controlled by the Liberal chairman.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think we should pursue this matter.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, I request the right to finish that statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: May we have order, please. The hon. member should resume his seat, and also the hon. member for St. Paul's. We have reached the end of the question period; in fact, we did so a few moments ago. Again I must apologize to the many hon. members who after a fruitless day yesterday had the same experience today. I will try to do my best for them tomorrow, but now we have questions of privilege which should be heard.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, the entire proceedings in the external affairs committee were under the direction of the