

think that the safeguards have legal importance, but I was talking specifically about the economic decision-making process and whether a plant should be here in Canada or in the United States. My answer was that the two formal safeguards do not exercise any direct effect on the decision-making process in existence.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Pepin:** They may have a side effect—

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the minister, but I feel that we should proceed to another subject.

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• (1200)

#### REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

##### POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING LOANS THROUGH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

**Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Would he say whether he intends to use the Industrial Development Bank in answer to the request of several businessmen who claim that the interest rates of the chartered banks are too high, and that it would be time to reduce them, because this is harmful to industrial and commercial development?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** I regret, Mr. Speaker, but industrial development does not fall within my jurisdiction.

[English]

#### POWER

##### PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT—ESTABLISHMENT OF CABINET COMMITTEE OR OTHER CO-ORDINATING BODY

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. It relates to the proposed James Bay project of the government of Quebec. In view of the fact there is federal responsibility in several departments—Environment, Indian Affairs and Transport—has a cabinet committee or some other federal co-ordinating body been set up to consider this problem from the federal aspect?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, this question is being considered in the proper areas of government.

**Mr. Aiken:** Am I to take it from the answer of the Prime Minister that for the time being we should address our questions to the ministers involved in the particular aspects of this project?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

#### Inquiries of the Ministry

##### PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT—CONSULTATION WITH INDIANS AFFECTED

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Has the minister consulted with the Indians now living in the province of Quebec who have been making violent objections to the whole James Bay project? If so, has the minister communicated this information to his colleague, the Minister of the Environment?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the House that I am in constant contact with the Quebec Indian Association, that I met Chief Max Gros-Louis about this as recently as last week and Chief Delisle as well as Mr. Gros-Louis a few weeks before.

[English]

##### PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT—DISCUSSIONS WITH QUEBEC BY INDIAN AFFAIRS MINISTER

**Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo):** Mr. Speaker, a number of my questions have already been asked. Is the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development also having discussions with the government of the province of Quebec about this very serious matter and expressing the view of his department as strongly as possible in these discussions? Also, is he prepared to give the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development a complete rundown on his discussions when his estimates come before that committee for examination?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I have already had the opportunity of speaking a couple of times to the Quebec Prime Minister as well as to the Minister of Industry and Commerce in that connection, the latter being to some extent responsible for the James Bay Development Corporation. During the consideration of my department's estimates in committee, I will be pleased to give to its members my opinion in this regard.

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[English]

#### REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

##### REVIEW OF STRATEGIES—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON OBJECTIVES—NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED STILL IN EXISTENCE

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In light of the widespread scepticism in the financial community about the minister's DREE programs, the latest evidence of which can be found in the economic report of the Provincial Bank of Canada, is the minister reviewing the strategies within his department and will a statement be made regarding the goals and objectives of the minister's programs?