

*Inquiries of the Ministry***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****RECONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA**

Mr. F. J. Bigg (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Would the minister reconsider our present attitude toward economic sanctions against Rhodesia, taking into account the fact that Rhodesia is offering employment opportunities to a wide variety of Canadians?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker. The government of Canada intends to abide by the sanctions endorsed by the United Nations.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**STAFF REDUCTIONS IN OFFICES IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Labour whether he can state that the Unemployment Insurance Commission offices in seven or more Atlantic provinces' centres will not be reduced in staff by July 1?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance. The only assurance I can give is that the unemployment insurance organization is designed to give the best possible service to people and not necessarily to please the employees at work.

Mr. Comeau: Mr. Speaker, in view of the controversy surrounding this matter, would the minister be prepared to make a statement on motions explaining exactly the changes that are taking place and what effect they will have on the offices as they exist?

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, the bill in question is before a committee of the House and these questions are now, I presume, being directed in this regard.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION**EFFECT OF ONTARIO BUDGET ON PROGRAMS**

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Has the minister had a chance to examine the budget of the Ontario government in which it offers tax incentives to industry? Will he state whether he thinks this will affect the federal government's programs, and is a change in the kind of grants available being considered?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of that. The department is reviewing the implications of that budget, but we do not believe it will affect our programs.

[Mr. Davis.]

[English]

Mr. Saltsman: Can the minister say when he anticipates he will be concluding his study and assessment of the situation and be able to report to the House?

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to report on this matter. We merely want to know if there is any incidence on our own programs and we do not see any.

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[English]

FAMILY ALLOWANCES**PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE IN CASE OF HIGHER INCOME FAMILIES—INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION**

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Can he indicate whether it is his intention to proceed with the previously proposed change in the family allowance plan which would discontinue family allowances to upper income families? Is it the intention to proceed with this during this session?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I believe I have already indicated several times, particularly during the latter part of last week, in answer to a similar question that we are entertaining various suggestions for improvements in various features of our proposals in the white paper. These suggestions are coming in now and we are going to consider them. We hope to have legislation before the House in the fall.

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POWER**PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC ON DIVERSION OF WATERS—STUDY OF ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS**

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. Has the federal government had any discussions with the provincial authorities in Quebec on the diversion of waters southward from rivers now flowing into Hudson Bay?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Harding: Will studies be initiated by the federal government on the possible ecological effects of any diversion?

Mr. Davis: That is a hypothetical question, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe that any diversion southward is being considered.