

Mr. Stanfield: Everybody is in Vancouver.

Mr. Laing: Everybody goes there eventually.

An hon. Member: How is the weather in Vancouver?

Mr. Laing: I shall certainly draw the minister's attention to the question immediately upon his return.

* * *

YOUTH

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS— DISCUSSIONS WITH PROVINCES

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to return to the question of student employment and ask the Secretary of State whether he has any explanation to give to the House as to why discussions with the provinces were not even initiated until the middle of February? This seems to be the reason no program can be announced. Has the minister any explanation to offer, because on the face of it this looks like one of the greatest derelictions of duty we have seen for some time.

* * *

[Translation]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

QUEBEC—CREATION OF SPECIAL AREAS IN LA MAURICIE

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Is his department having consultations with the Quebec government for the purpose of creating additional special zones, especially the La Mauricie valley?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

FISHERIES

SEAL HUNT—MEASURES TO CONTROL VISITS TO ICE FLOES

Mr. Albert Bécharde (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, but in his absence I shall direct it to his Parliamentary Secretary.

In view of the accidents that happened in the Gulf of St. Lawrence last Saturday, will the Department of Fisheries and Forestry make representations to "animal lovers" in the United States and ask them to inquire before engaging in so hazardous an adventure, which as a matter of fact had been indicated to the House last week?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Eymard Corbin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, the officials of the Department of Fisheries and Forestry advised the members of this organization not to venture onto the ice; this advice was not followed, and the organizers must bear the whole responsibility for any unfortunate incident which may follow.

[English]

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry could advise the House which of the inhuman and brutal sealers rescued the three Americans who fell overboard?

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VISIT TO AFRICA BY MINISTER—SIGNING OF TREATIES OR AGREEMENTS

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address this question to the Acting Prime Minister or perhaps the information might come from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. As the Secretary of State for External Affairs has taken off on his African safari, can the parliamentary secretary inform the House whether during this two-week trip any treaties or agreements will be signed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and could he indicate the nature of them?

[Translation]

Mr. André Ouellet (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker, during his trip to Africa the Secretary of State for External Affairs will be signing agreements with official representatives of the countries he is going to visit. Since the trip is only beginning today, I would not want to announce ahead of time what those agreements will be. However, I shall be pleased to advise the House as soon as any such agreement is concluded.

[English]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, in view of the possible important nature of some of these agreements, I hope we will not have to wait to hear about them from the press, which is often the normal course of events in such matters.

* * *

TRADE

POSSIBLE ENTRY OF BRITAIN INTO EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET—CANADIAN EXPORT ITEMS DISCUSSED WITH BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): I have a question for the Minister of Finance in connection with the recent discussions with Mr. Geoffrey Rippon regarding the European Common Market. In light of Mr. Rippon's reported statement that everything possible will be done