

Inquiries of the Ministry

make. First, the provinces have a part to play in this field, and we work in close co-operation with them. Second, this is a police officer's task, and we believe that operations in this connection should be led by experts, and that, while some of these may be successful at times, others fail, because fighting organized crime is no easy matter.

[English]

Mr. Allmand: Would the minister or the government consider establishing a task force, a royal commission or an inquiry by Parliament to look into the causes and nature of violent crime in Canada?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, in the light of my earlier reply, I am afraid that the hon. member's proposal would be a delusion, and that the work of such a committee would only reveal what several people already suspect.

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[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**UNEMPLOYMENT—POSSIBLE ON THE JOB TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH—DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCES**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister who is in the House but not in his seat; hence he will be unable to reply to my question until he resumes his seat. Is the government now giving consideration to introducing a special on the job training program aimed at getting at least 25,000 young people off the unemployment rolls this winter?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as hon. members know from reading the press, the government appears to be considering a great number of things, including this. These stories are not always accurate and it would be inadvisable for the press to hold its breath until we make announcements on these specific matters.

Mr. Hees: You are not doing anything, so the press does not hold its breath and wait for you to do something.

Mr. Trudeau: I am not criticizing these stories in any way; I am telling the House that questions based on these reports do not necessarily elicit a positive answer from the government.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I hope will receive an answer from the government. Is the government giving priority to a special program of job training for our young people to get them back to work this winter and, if so, will this matter be discussed with the appropriate provincial authorities?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, in cases where any programs that we may want to follow come partly within provincial jurisdiction I can assure the House that we will discuss them with the proper provincial authorities.

[Mr. Goyer.]

TAXATION**SUCCESSION DUTIES AND GIFT TAXES—PROPOSED FEDERAL ABANDONMENT—REPLY TO PROVINCIAL REQUESTS FOR DELAY**

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I understand the Prime Minister has now sent a reply to the Premier's letter of August 6 requesting a one-year delay in the implementation of the proposals regarding changes in succession duties and gift taxes. I wonder whether the Prime Minister is now in a position to inform the House of the nature of his reply?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, a few days ago I answered this question in the House. I indicated that my reply was to the effect that we were not going to delay the implementation of the government's decision, subject to our getting the legislation through the House, of course. I added that federal officials and ministers would be prepared to discuss with provinces that desire to have discussion on ways in which we might assist them in preparing to raise their own taxes if they wanted to step in where the federal government had stepped out. As the House knows, the announcement was to the effect that we would not continue collecting these taxes but that if the provinces wanted to start collecting them we would try to assist them to do so.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**REPRESENTATIONS BY PRIME MINISTER TO PREMIER KOSYGIN ON BEHALF OF MINORITY GROUPS IN U.S.S.R.**

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Before the Prime Minister tells the convention of the Ukrainian-Canadian Congress, would he tell the House what views he will express to Commissar Kosygin on behalf of minority groups in the U.S.S.R.?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would rather follow a different sequence and listen to what the Ukrainians have to say and get their reactions before deciding what to tell Premier Kosygin.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which is a very simple one. Is or is not the Prime Minister prepared to take a stand for freedom?

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CROWN CORPORATIONS**POLYMER—ACTION TO PREVENT EMPLOYEE LAY-OFFS**

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Has the minister met with officials of the Polymer Corporation and, if so, will he agree to meet further with them in an attempt to find ways of reducing or stopping altogether the lay-off of 250 men?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I have been in close contact with