

*Oral Questions**[English]***CANADA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY****DELAY IN APPOINTING PRESIDENT**

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton South): Madam Speaker, may I put a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can the Minister explain why a delay of nearly five months has occurred in filling the presidency of the Canadian International Development Agency, and tell the House if special criteria are being applied this time? When does the Minister expect to make an announcement?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, I am not sure whether the question is addressed to me. There are no special reasons for the delay except that we are making a very careful scrutiny of possible candidates so that this agency will have the best possible leadership.

Mr. Roche: Madam Speaker, I do not know why the Government does not appoint Bill McWhinney as permanent president. He has been doing a splendid job for five months as acting president. I hope I have not put the kiss of death on him by commending him in the House of Commons.

CLASSIFICATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton South): Madam Speaker, can the Minister confirm that the 1982 CIDA Annual Report falls into the classification of a parliamentary document and will therefore automatically be referred for study to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, I agree with the Hon. Member that Mr. McWhinney is doing an excellent job in the leadership of CIDA at the present time.

I can tell the Hon. Member that I am not quite sure whether the annual report is one of those documents that is automatically referred to the Standing Committee. That is a question of fact but I shall look into it and certainly, if it is in that category, I will welcome the opportunity to have it examined by the Committee.

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AGRICULTURE**PROMISED TRANSFER OF EMERGENCY FUND TO WESTERN GRAIN RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Madam Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Agriculture. For two years the Minister has been promising to turn over the \$9.6 million in the Prairie Farm Emergency Fund to the Western Grain Research Foundation. I wonder if he can advise the House when the money will be turned over.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, soon.

REQUEST FOR ACCELERATION OF TRANSFER

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Madam Speaker, a year and a half ago I received the same answer from the Minister of Agriculture. He does not seem to understand what soon means. This is a non-interest bearing account and, in the past two years, probably \$2 million in interest has been lost to research. Can the Minister explain to the House what he means by soon?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, it will be sooner than soon.

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THE ECONOMY**REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKE MAJOR PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM**

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. For the majority of Canadians the only measure of economic recovery that will matter is whether they have a job or have the prospect of getting a job. There are probably two million Canadians presently unemployed. According to Statistics Canada the number is 1.6 million, but considerably more are out of the work force. There are umpteen thousand young people looking forward to finding employment but cannot find it at the present time.

Does the Prime Minister not believe that, since indirect investment by the Government it costs 48 cents for every dollar spent in stimulation in public works, it would make sense now, rather than later, to go ahead with a major public works program in order to stimulate that confidence that most people need, that somehow, somewhere, some day soon they will be able to go back to work and earn a living?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I agree with the Hon. Member that it is important to take initiatives to create jobs. I would remind him of my answer to a question a moment ago, of the \$2 billion that the Government allotted to the creation of jobs. Whether it is in public works, housing, or other forms of expenditure to encourage consumer demand and provide investment is, I think, a little bit secondary from the point of view of the unemployed worker. He wants a job. He does not necessarily think it has to come from the sole source that the Hon. Member suggests, but it is one of many sources.

REQUEST THAT PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS BE EXPEDITED

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, if it were possible to project with any degree of accuracy or confidence that the private sector is about to make a massive