

a moment ago, or to whoever is acting for him, and ask him to take it as notice. Can the minister advise whether anything will be done for workers affected by widespread layoffs in industries as the result of cutbacks by the United States in defence sharing programs?

**Mr. J. C. Munro (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I will bring this matter to the minister's attention for an early reply.

### INDUSTRY

#### GEORGIAN BAY—CONSIDERATION UNDER DESIGNATED AREA PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey North):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry. In view of the fact that the removal of the southern Georgian bay region from the list of designated areas discriminates against the Owen Sound area, which now has close to 2,100 men and women seeking employment there, will he give consideration to restoring this region to the list of designated areas or to making special provision for the Owen Sound employment area?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It is my impression that questions in respect of designated areas should not be accepted, as they have not been previously, and I think the hon. member might consider putting his question on the order paper. If there are special reasons for immediate debate on this question perhaps the hon. member would consider it appropriate to debate the question during the adjournment proceedings.

**Mr. Noble:** Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

#### SYDNEY, N.S.—FEDERAL ASSISTANCE IN MAINTAINING OPERATION OF STEEL PLANT

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Michael Starr (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the right hon. Prime Minister, asking whether he can now say that a decision has been reached by the federal government as to its participation in cost sharing with the government of Nova Scotia in order to keep the Sydney steel plant operating.

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** No final decision has been reached on this matter, Mr. Speaker, but discussions are still continuing on this matter of urgency.

### Inquiries of the Ministry

**Mr. Starr:** Since no decision has been reached, may I ask whether this failure to reach a decision is the result of a split in the federal cabinet on this important matter?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I would think the supplementary question is acceptable.

**Mr. Pearson:** There is no substance to that story, I may say.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—UNEMPLOYMENT RESULTING FROM SALE OF VICTORIA MACHINERY DEPOT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Harold Winch (Vancouver East):** It had been my wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration; in his absence I should like to direct it to the parliamentary secretary. Last Monday the minister said he would reply on Wednesday to a question I asked him regarding possible unemployment occasioned by the sale of the Victoria Machinery Depot to the Burrard Drydock Company. Since I was told I would receive an answer today, may I ask the parliamentary secretary if he is now in a position to report on the results of the inquiries the department has made.

**Mr. J. C. Munro (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** I can only assure the hon. member that I will try to have an answer ready tomorrow.

**Mr. Ron Basford (Vancouver-Burrard):** Will the parliamentary secretary make efforts to assure us through his minister's answer tomorrow that the team employed by this firm which built the offshore drilling rig called "Sedco" will be maintained so we may be able to build another on the west coast?

### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

#### SASKATOON—STATEMENT ON STATION CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** I should like to take this opportunity to answer a question asked several weeks ago by the hon. member for Saskatoon; I am glad to be in a position to answer his question now. Bearing in mind the fact that the Saskatoon area is already served by a C.B.C. affiliate, and having regard to our efforts to reduce public expenditures, the government has regretfully come to the conclusion that