

the Minister have that any compensation for the families or relatives of Canadian victims will be forthcoming? If there is no compensation, what does the Government plan to do?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Madam Speaker, we have embarked upon a process which I think has to be pressed forward very aggressively in the field of civil aviation, and with respect to compensation we have served a notice of claim. Other countries have served a notice of claim. We know that in a previous example where we sought damages from the Soviet Union we waited for two years before we received a response. I do not think they are going to come forward very easily or quickly. However, I think we have to continue to assert aggressively (a) their responsibility and (b) the necessity of compensation, not only in our direct contacts with Soviet officials, but also at the United Nations and at the International Civil Aviation Organization.

We have to ensure that the weight of public opinion worldwide is registered upon the Soviet leadership so that they will respond. As I stated, up to the present time they have not responded adequately or satisfactorily to the wave of indignation that has swept the world. Neither have their explanations been found plausible in the countries of the West.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### CALL FOR INVESTIGATION

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, the Minister has referred to the United Nations and to the International Civil Aviation Organization which is meeting in Montreal this week. Does the Government of Canada have any specific proposals that it plans to take either to the United Nations or to the international body that is meeting in Montreal this week, in order to establish some kind of international changes that might at least militate against the possibility of this kind of horrific action ever occurring again?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Yes, Madam Speaker, we were, I believe, the first country to propose at the United Nations that an impartial investigation be undertaken by the Secretary General into all the allegations and to counter allegations that have been made with respect to this incident. We are still pressing at the United Nations to empower the Secretary General to have an impartial investigation. Likewise we will press at ICAO in Montreal to secure an impartial investigation of all the facts and also to do what the Hon. Member suggests as a reasonable objective. I think it is an overwhelmingly important objective, namely, to ensure that in the future the rules of international law will be observed and that this incident will not be repeated, because no traveller can travel these routes in the future without some great fear or unease that a similar event will occur. Therefore, procedures to ensure an avoidance are absolutely necessary. We will be pressing forward with those in Montreal and in the other international organizations.

#### Oral Questions

### LABOUR CONDITIONS

#### YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Madam Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. In congratulating the Minister on his appointment, I hope that during his brief tenure he will be able to address himself in a meaningful way to the plight of the unemployed.

Today, following on the heels of a release by Statistics Canada showing an unemployment rate among young people of 19.4 per cent, Canadian Press obtained a document commissioned by the Minister's Department which states "High unemployment amongst youth will be a major factor in keeping the over-all unemployment rate high during the next few years." The document then stated that we can expect one in five young people in this country to be unemployed into 1985. That is unacceptable to this House and to most Canadians. I ask the Minister what he intends to do about this totally unacceptable situation which is full of disastrous consequences for this country.

**Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Madam Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for his kind words of welcome. I would say in return that, knowing he is one of the most compassionate and experienced Members of the House, I look forward to his advice and counsel. I hope that he will be in his position for a very long time to offer me that kind of assistance in the years to come.

There is no doubt that the problem of job creation, particularly for young people, is a pre-eminent and dominant concern of this Government. We do not find, as he does not find, those projections to be acceptable. We are already devoting considerable resources to assist in the employment of young people. This year we are spending something like \$1 billion of federal funds for that purpose. The average is something like \$2.5 million a day going to these programs to assist young people, both in training and direct job-creation programs. I do not argue for a moment with the Hon. Member that we may simply stay satisfied with that level of effort. We are exploring a variety of options to improve our record in this area.

#### RATE OF JOB CREATION

**Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Madam Speaker, I hesitate to remind the Minister that unemployment among young people has on average been over 20 per cent since July of last year. This is not a new problem. The Minister knows that during an economic downturn young people are the first to be fired and the last to be hired. Therefore, given the fact that last Friday Statistics Canada indicated a sharp downturn in the economy, a 75 per cent drop in the rate of new employment in this country over the previous four months, where is the economic climate within which the Minister promises to perform for these young people? He has now had a chance to examine the policies of