

*Oral Questions***ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM****EXCESSIVE SALARY INCREASE GRANTED PRESIDENT OF KAISER RESOURCES LIMITED—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance may I direct a question to the Prime Minister? In view of the disclosures in a Canadian Press report today to the effect that the head of Kaiser Resources Limited received a pay increase last year of over \$60,000 and that the heads of other companies such as Massey-Ferguson, Bell Canada, Northern Telecom, Candel Oil, Canadian Homestead Oil, Imperial Oil and others received pay increases last year ranging from \$10,000 to \$22,000 a year, will the government take serious steps to see that the policy of restraint applies to those at the top the same as it does wage earners and others in the middle and lower income brackets?

**Mr. Bob Kaplan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I read the Canadian Press report and brought it to the attention of the Anti-Inflation Board. The board informed me that some of the guidelines and exceptions as stated in the article are wrong and that the policies are not as stated, but the board was asked to look into the matters referred to in the article, and it has agreed to do so.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that some weeks ago I asked a question about one of these companies, Bell Canada, and was assured that there would be a reply, will the parliamentary secretary make sure that there will be a reply in the House with respect to all of these companies?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Okanagan-Kootenay.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Would the parliamentary secretary give that assurance?

**Mr. Speaker:** I presumed that that was a representation to the hon. parliamentary secretary which ought to be noted.

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**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES ACT****EXPIRATION OF ACT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—INQUIRY AS TO REPLACEMENT**

**Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. The Regional Development Incentives Act expired in 1975 in both British Columbia and Alberta. The food processing nutritive agreement has emerged in Alberta as a substitute for the RDIA, but as yet nothing has been negotiated in B.C. for a replacement. What initiative has the minister taken to arrive at an agreement with British Columbia for replacing the Regional Development Incentives Act?

[Mr. Muir.]

● (1450)

[Translation]

**Hon. Marcel Lessard (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, there is no negotiation to replace the Regional Development Incentives Act because this act remains in effect and it does not now apply to the province of British Columbia because there is no area designated as such under the act in this province. What we have in the province of Alberta to replace the act is an auxiliary agreement under the general development agreement which enables both governments to share costs. We are negotiating cost-sharing agreements with the government of British Columbia as a contribution to the infrastructure which is necessary for the establishment of new businesses in some areas of British Columbia. I am also considering the possibility of extending the scope of RDIA to businesses in other areas in Canada which are not covered by the act at the present time. This decision is not yet definite. We shall report to the House when we make a decision on this one way or another.

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[English]

**REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION****SUGGESTION AGREEMENT WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA BE SIMILAR TO AGREEMENT WITH QUEBEC**

**Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In connection with the negotiations with British Columbia in regard to regional and economic expansion to which the minister referred and because of the difficulties as a result of no precise section of the province being designated and therefore programs such as the one we have been discussing failing to have any effect in British Columbia, what response would the minister have to the suggestion that the agreement with British Columbia coincide or be related rather closely to the agreement with Quebec, to the effect that a large part of or almost the entire province would be designated, giving the province greater flexibility in selecting areas where regional development and economic expansion grants would be available in the province?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marcel Lessard (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, during these negotiations, we said we were interested in designating some areas of this province for the implementation of our industrial assistance legislation. Without being opposed to it, the government of British Columbia would rather have us use another method, but doing this does not necessarily mean that we—for it would be our decision—would not extend the implementation of this legislation to other regions of British Columbia. However, there again I would rather wait until we have completed the current negotiations and come to an agreement before taking any other step. Should the pending agreement meet most of the goals both governments have in view, maybe no further action