

[English]

INDUSTRY

COAL MINING, NOVA SCOTIA—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. On April 26 the minister indicated he would consider making a statement in the House on the position of government policy regarding certain coal mining operations in Nova Scotia. Has the minister had a chance to consider the matter further, will he in fact be making a statement on the subject and, if so, when?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I have considered it, Mr. Speaker. Without renewal of the inquiry I thought that perhaps interest had abated. However, I am prepared to give the suggestion further consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Before calling orders of the day, perhaps I might revert to the first subject raised during the question period. I indicated to the hon. member for Egmont and the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville that they would be recognized later for the purpose of asking supplementary questions. They are now recognized at this point for that purpose.

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YOUTH

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON FORMATION OF FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL HUMAN RESOURCES COUNCIL

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Since the Secretary of State pointed out earlier today, and at other times, that there is overlapping or divided responsibility regarding the employment of youth, and in view of the increasing problem in this regard and the recommendations of the task force report last year, and recently of the Wright Commission, with respect to a federal-provincial human resources council, are plans going ahead for the formation of such a human resources council, and when might we expect to have some word on it?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would be pleased to take note of the question, Mr. Speaker.

EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS—POSSIBLE REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS POLICY

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): As a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, in view of representations made last week and questions to the Secretary of State regarding this and other matters concerning youth policy, and his agreeing to a committee of the House discussing these matters, would the government House leader consult with the Secretary of State and with the Prime Minister to see if arrangements could be made for an appropriate committee of the House to discuss these important matters?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I shall be pleased to discuss this with the House leader, Mr. Speaker.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—POSSIBLE EXTENSION TO NON-STUDENTS—OTHER MEASURES

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the Secretary of State or to the Prime Minister. In view of the heavy emphasis of summer youth employment programs on students, can the minister say whether or not he is planning any specific programs for non-student youth, or will he expand the Opportunities for Youth program to include those who are not students?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, there are already some programs for the young who are not necessarily students. There is one, which is surely known to the hon. member, or about which he can be informed, if he is not already. As for future plans, I have already stated clearly that the main concern with regard to such projects at the present time is precisely to reach the young who are not students nor members of organized groups, that is those whose needs are the greatest.

[English]

• (1520)

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege at this time for the purpose of apologizing to the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay). I never intended to reflect on his ability to count at any time and, as he indicated, he was almost accurate when he said he had been here for four years. However, I am surprised that he should confess to the need for a research staff to count the number of questions, 400-odd, that have been asked from this side of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member for Yukon rising on a point of order?

Mr. Nielsen: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Vegreville rises on a point of order.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, in response to a question posed by the hon. member for Athabasca, I believe the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board left the House with the impression that the total realized price to producers of wheat was not the lowest in ten years. I should like to draw to his attention through you, Mr. Speaker, the fact that in the annual Wheat Board report—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is merely debate. If the hon. member can show me a Standing Order under which that kind of question qualifies as a point of order, I would be pleased to see it. This is debate. The hon. member disagrees with an answer given by a minister. If the hon. member's supplementary question is permitted by way of a point of order, we could have points of order for the rest