

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mrs. MacInnis: In looking at the matter would the minister consider measures to deal with the problem, including the withholding of federal money from British Columbia and all other provinces that are violating the Canada Assistance Plan, if he finds that they are, and make an early statement to the House on his findings?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, with all respect to the hon. member, the question is purely hypothetical at this stage. I should like to have a chance to find out what the legislation is all about and then I will report back.

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[Translation]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—PROVISION OF
ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Considering that many local initiatives projects could not be accepted or carried out because of a lack of funds—and this I find unfortunate for small localities—would the Prime Minister tell the House whether the government intends to present a supplementary budget so that some projects may be carried out?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for having voiced his approval of the Local Initiatives Program and also for having commented on its success.

To answer his question and for the moment, I can only say that no decision has been taken to that effect. We have created over 85,000 jobs through this program and, for the moment, we do not intend to renew it. But the question will remain under review.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—DURATION OF JOBS
CREATED

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

May I ask the Prime Minister whether the 85,000 jobs to which he has just alluded are of a greater duration than 8 weeks, or if rotation took place while some projects were carried out, which would have resulted in the multiplication of jobs when at times those jobs may have lasted only three or four weeks?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that the supplementary asked by the hon. member is of a statistical nature. In my opinion, it should normally be put on the order paper. If there is any urgency, the hon. member may wish to give notice, and I will see to it that it is considered on the adjournment motion.

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Munro.]

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RELEASE OF YVES GEOFFROY FROM ST. VINCENT DE
PAUL PENITENTIARY—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF
PASSPORT APPLICATION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. About nine or ten days ago I asked the minister, in connection with the Geoffroy case, whether or not he would table in the House a copy of the application for a passport for Geoffroy and his paramour, and as yet I have not received an answer. It should be a most revealing document, one that I am sure will go a long way toward clearing up doubts in the minds of people in general concerning the issue of that passport.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I have not made a decision on this matter. Perhaps I should explain to the House that there is nothing in these documents that we have any fear of revealing. Unfortunately there is the name of what is apparently an innocent man involved, a person whose name had been forged. I have had some hesitation in tabling such a document, because I know that if his name became known the casual reader might come to feel that he had had something to do with the case. In due course all these documents, I suppose, will be revealed when the case against Madame Geoffroy is proceeded with, but I will try within the next day or two to reach a decision on the matter.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, ten days have gone by since the minister said he would look into the matter. No one wants to do any harm to an innocent person. All the minister will have to do in producing this application is to say that the name of the individual who is the sponsor was forged, and then there will be nothing adverse resting on the individual.

I do not know what the Prime Minister is pointing at, but I am afraid that he will start to swear.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I was under the impression that the right hon. gentleman had asked his question, that the minister had replied, and the matter was to rest there. The Chair then recognized the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River. If the right hon. gentleman has a supplementary, I will recognize him.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Prime Minister was making signs to me to sit down. When Your Honour told him to sit down a few minutes ago he stood for fully two minutes.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Disgraceful show of manners. Let him have it, John.