

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): No, Mr. Speaker.

POLLUTION

AIR—USE OF MONITORING EQUIPMENT

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the continuing concern over the level of air pollution in our cities and the minister's previous response to a question I asked him when he said that no clean air legislation would be brought in at this session, can the minister advise whether any special arrangements such as monitoring are being carried out at the federal level to meet this continuing serious problem?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Air sampling stations have been sponsored by the federal government across the country for several years now under the aegis of the air pollution control division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, and that activity is being carried on.

MANPOWER

CLOSING OF ERIE FLOORING AND WOOD PRODUCTS PLANT AT WEST LORNE, ONT.

Mr. H. E. Stafford (Elgin): My question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Has the minister been informed of the decision by Erie Flooring and Wood Products Industries of Toronto to close their hardwood flooring and pallets plant in West Lorne, Ontario, which employs 142 workers and is of crucial importance to this community? If so, has the minister anything to report on the situation?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes, I am aware of the closure. I know how regrettable it is because the employer is the single employer in that small community. My officers have opened temporary facilities in the Town hall at West Lorne and we are attempting to make all our facilities available to assist the workers.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED STATES REGARDING POLLUTION OF ALASKAN COAST

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Can the Secretary of State for External Affairs tell us whether in fact Canada has a

Inquiries of the Ministry

working relationship with the United States authorities regarding the pollution of the Alaskan coast which is claiming large numbers of birds and animal life? If so, could he give us some indication of whether we are contributing to the experimentation to discover the source of this pollution?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I will take notice of that question.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

CIRCULATION TO MEMBERS OF CITIZENSHIP FORM

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): I should like to address my question to the Minister without Portfolio responsible for citizenship. In view of the government's austerity program, could he advise the House why he found it necessary to write letters to the 265 Members of Parliament enclosing a form to apply for proof of Canadian citizenship in view of the fact that every member of this House must be a Canadian citizen before he can be a member?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): With great pleasure, Mr. Speaker. The point of the exercise is to emphasize to Canadians that all people who hold certificates of Canadian citizenship are not new citizens, that you do not need to get them through naturalization but that many people obtain them through the pride of being Canadian citizens, and I thought Members of Parliament might want to celebrate citizenship week by doing so.

Mr. Hales: Were similar letters sent to the Senate?

Mr. Stanbury: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Dubé: The senior citizens.

FURTHER ADJOURNMENT FOR COMMITTEE WORK

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the committees of the House are making good use of the extra time granted to them today, but since they need still further time to catch up with the backlog of their work, I wonder if the Prime Minister would suggest to the government House Leader that two or three days might be taken off next