[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

DELAY IN PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO CANADIANS WORKING IN UNITED STATES—CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CANADIAN AND AMERICAN AUTHORITIES

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Labour.

Since Canadians working in the U.S. are experiencing difficulties in getting their unemployment insurance benefits, would the minister say whether the officials of the Canadian unemployment insurance offices are getting excellent co-operation from those of the various American states in order to solve this problem?

[English]

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, that question should more properly be addressed to my colleague, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I will undertake to draw it to his attention and get an answer for the hon. member.

* * *

CARROT RIVER, SASKATCHEWAN—POSSIBLE DECLARATION AS DISASTER AREA AND OPENING OF SPECIAL QUOTAS FOR GRAIN FARMERS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question to direct to the Minister of Agriculture but in his absence I will direct it to the acting minister. As a result of the flooding of the Carrot River and the very severe damage reported in the area, are on-the-spot inspections being carried out by someone from the department, or by the minister who is on a pilgrimage to the west and perhaps could be diverted to observe the area personally, with a view to declaring it a disaster area so that federal assistance might be given to the people affected?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if I understand the matter aright, the question of whether the federal government should give assistance in such cases depends upon whether the province asks for assistance in dealing with an emergency. I understand that the provincial co-ordinator under the Emergency Measures Organization is on the spot and that we will have a report soon.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. If the reports indicate that the severe flooding has damaged grain in storage, would the minister consider the possibility of opening up special quotas for the people affected in order to salvage whatever grain may already be partially damaged by allowing them to make special deliveries?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member should know that this is a matter within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board, but I will certainly bring it to their attention. In previous cases they have taken such action.

25104-47

Inquiries of the Ministry

YOUTH

ACTION ON TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS—REFER-ENCE OF REPORT TO COMMITTEE—SUCCESS OF INDUS-TRIAL REFERRAL GROUP RESPECTING OPPORTUNI-TIES FOR YOUTH PROJECTS

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State. With regard to the task force report on youth which was tabled almost a year ago and dealing as it does with recreational, social and manpower policies with respect to young Canadians, can the minister indicate any progress on the recommendations in the report, and when we may expect legislation or some action of another nature?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this question is under consideration by certain government committees and I am in no position to say today when the government will be prepared to state its position concerning this report.

[English]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): In view of the importance of the recommendations and the length of time since they were published, is the minister prepared to have the report referred to a standing committee of the House so that the report and its recommendations may be examined before any legislation or policies are enunciated by the government?

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I am not opposed to the consideration of that report by a standing committee of the House, if such a committee wishes to do so.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Speaker: Order. Perhaps we might try to terminate this subject and allow the hon. member for Egmont to ask another supplementary. Then the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Secretary of State. With regard to the series of questions I have asked in the past few weeks with respect to the present employment situation of young people and the final approval of roughly 3,000 Opportunities for Youth projects, can the minister indicate today or in the near future the success of the industrial referral group with some 16,000 projects that will not be funded under OFY and the number that might be picked up by the private sector or other levels of government?

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I think I should be able to give the hon. member an answer in this respect within two or three weeks.