

## Oral Questions

[Translation]

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

GARRISON AND DICKEY LINCOLN PROJECTS—SUGGESTED  
REQUEST TO UNITED STATES FOR MORATORIUM—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Claude-André Lachance (Lafontaine-Rosemount):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the question asked on Thursday, June 26, 1975, by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Since the House of Representatives of the United States Congress has approved the financing of two major projects, that is the Garrison diversion in North Dakota, and especially the Dickey Lincoln project in the State of Maine whose construction will flood more than 5,000 acres of arable land in Quebec, whose approval shows the failure of the marshmallow diplomacy between Canada and United States, is the Canadian government considering other means of action to constrain the American government to keep its commitment that it shall not do anything with regard to the projects which might cause prejudice to Canada?

[English]

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** As was stated last week by the President of the Privy Council, the government of the United States, including the President himself, has given Canada categorical assurance that obligations under the appropriate treaty will be carried out. I accept this assurance that in this particular case they will be carried out by the government of the United States.

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## FINANCE

PROPOSED INCREASE IN RETURNS ON GOVERNMENT  
ANNUITIES—POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTATION BY  
LEGISLATION

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In his budget speech, the Minister of Finance announced that the government would be introducing legislation to increase the rate of returns on existing Government of Canada annuities. Can the Acting Prime Minister tell us whether legislation to this effect will be placed on the order paper before the summer recess or, if not, whether an announcement will be made as to the details of that legislation?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** It is not quite clear whether separate legislation is required or whether it will be sufficient to have the changes covered in the next Appropriation Act. In any event, if legislation should not be required there will be an explanation before we rise.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENT BY MINISTER  
OF LABOUR CONCERNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
CONSULTATION WITH BUSINESS AND LABOUR

**Mr. Peter Bawden (Calgary South):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. In Alberta this weekend, the Minister of Labour, speaking to a small group of Liberals who got up for breakfast, said there appeared to be "lots of opportunity for further consultation with business and labour over the course of the next month or even the next year." Can the Acting Prime Minister clarify what the Minister of Labour was talking about? Has the government decided to resume the consensus talks in an effort to reach some form of voluntary restraint?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** The hon. member will recall that when the Minister of Finance made his budget speech he said he thought the consultation process had been a very useful form of dialogue between the government and the various parts of the community and that the channels of communication should not be closed off.

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[Translation]

## COMMUNICATIONS

CABLEVISION—SUGGESTED SETTLEMENT OF  
JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTE WITH QUEBEC AT NEXT  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister responsible for communications.

Considering that during the weekend the Quebec premier said publicly that he was in favour of the position taken by his minister, Mr. L'Allier, Mr. Bourassa's statement representing very clearly I think the position of Quebec, is the minister prepared to put an end to the conflict between both governments until the next conference of responsible ministers?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, I do not think the statement of the Quebec premier changes anything in the situation; it is a repetition, it is the fourth time, I think, he has made the same statement. As far as the conflict is concerned, I would point out to the hon. member that Quebec issued a licence concerning a territory already granted by the CRTC; so the federal government did not start the hostilities.

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[English]

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HERMANN REPORT—  
POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTATION

**Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Has the minister had an opportunity to consider the excellent recommendations of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs with respect to the Her-