

Oral Questions

veyed to me with regard to their marketing intentions, and I understand that there has been no change either in their recruitment program with regard to employing Canadian workers in their Canadian plant.

INQUIRY AS TO PROTEST TO GATT CONCERNING
IMPOSITION BY UNITED STATES OF COUNTERVAILING
DUTY ON MICHELIN TIRES

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Can the minister inform the House whether or not he or some other minister of the government has filed a formal protest to GATT concerning the United States decision on Michelin? If so, would he consider tabling that protest? Finally, would he inform the House when an answer or decision might be expected to be reached by GATT, if that action has been taken?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as I explained to the House on an earlier occasion, we did file a formal protest with the United States government. We have not yet received a reply to that formal protest. We have not yet filed a formal protest with GATT.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPRESENTATIONS TO UNITED STATES AGAINST
PROPOSED FLOODING OF SKAGIT RIVER VALLEY IN
— CANADA FOR POWER PROJECT

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. There is some urgency because at the present time the United States Federal Power Commission is receiving briefs regarding flooding of the Canadian Skagit valley. In view of the stated opposition of the government of Canada, of the Official Opposition and of the New Democratic Party to the flooding of the Canadian Skagit valley by Seattle Light and Power, would the minister advise the House what action he is taking in this regard to save this Canadian valley from being flooded by an American power corporation?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on January 9 a note was sent to the United States authorities requesting discussions on this question. This is the procedure that has been approved by both the government of the province of British Columbia and of course by this government. It seems to us the most effective way of getting action.

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, again I stress the urgency of this matter. On December 17, 1971, the Minister of the Environment—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member ask his question as quickly as possible, because we have reached the end of the question period.

Mr. Fraser: Can the minister advise the house whether in fact any formal protest has been issued by the government of Canada to the government of the United States

[Mr. Jamieson.]

saying plainly that we will not accept the flooding of this valley?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, we have made our representations to the United States government which I believe is quite happy to discuss them with us. The outstanding issue at the moment is not the question of the flooding but the question of the cost, and this is what we are discussing at present.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have reached the end of the question period. The Chair will allow another supplementary question from the hon. member for Vancouver South, following which we will have to call orders of the day.

Mr. Fraser: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In view of the reply by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, can the minister tell the House why the Minister of the Environment recently stated that the Skagit was a dead issue when apparently this is not so?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please, I suggest to the hon. member that this is hardly in order.

Mr. Fraser: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

• (1500)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1971 (No. 1)
PROVISION FOR APPROPRIATION TO BE DEEMED
ADVANCE

The House resumed from Monday, February 5, consideration of the motion of Mr. Andras that Bill C-124, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971 (No. 1), be read the third time and do pass.

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Verdun): Mr. Speaker, last evening at ten o'clock I had just begun my remarks on third reading of this very important bill. I am very pleased that I came into the House for the question period which I want to do more and more in the future. I am very happy that the hon. member for Saint Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner), who is a good friend of mine, showed as much concern as he did during the question period for the unemployed in the province of Quebec. I am wondering how he could possibly reconcile this concern for the unwilling victims of our fiscal and monetary policies with his vote later on when he votes against Bill C-124 which would indicate that he is quite prepared to deny to those unemployed the unemployment insurance benefits which would be due them next week.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Translation]

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.