

House that the Taschereau papers include a book containing about 150 names of persons attending meetings of communist party cells, which was found in the possession of a now prominent professor at an Ontario university, and also that the same Taschereau papers contain the names, among other names, of a former deputy minister of finance and certain past and present heads and members of Canadian Crown corporations and commissions?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, I am certainly prepared to confirm that I have not read the Taschereau papers. I do not know what they contain.

Mr. Cossitt: Did you ask to read them?

Mr. Kaplan: I have not asked what they contain, but I have described the process being followed to make the decision on whether they can be released, in the public interest, earlier than the date which was prescribed some six or seven years ago.

Mr. Cossitt: What about Ralph Branscombe?

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THE ECONOMY

INVESTMENT OVERSEAS BY CANADIAN CONTROLLED MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. What action does the Minister of Finance and the government propose to take, on behalf of the over one million people who are unemployed in Canada, to bring into line the multinational corporations which are spending Canadian dollars developing subsidiaries abroad and creating far more jobs outside Canada than they are currently creating in Canada?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, when I have any new policy to announce on that rather broad subject, I will make it clear to the House.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Would the Minister of Finance care to indicate whether he considers it acceptable that out of 52 multinationals operating in Canada and controlled in Canada which were studied, 26 of those which operate in Ontario, showed absolutely no growth in employment in Ontario at the same time as showing a 7.8 per cent growth outside the country; that 15 multinationals operating in Quebec showed a net loss of 1.5 per cent in employment terms, while showing an 18.4 per cent increase abroad; that in every region of Canada there has been a marked increase in multinational operations outside as they affect employment, while Canadians sit idle looking for work?

An hon. Member: It is because of the government.

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

Oral Questions

Mr. MacEachen: Madam Speaker, I remind the hon. member that I have heard similar speeches in other countries about investment in Canada.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—EFFECT OF STATEMENT MADE BY PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES

Mr. Paul E. McRae (Thunder Bay-Atikokan): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It deals with a recent statement of the President of the United States about South Africa and the reaction among other black nations, particularly at the United Nations, to the visits of South African generals to the United States.

Will the minister explain that a policy of cozying up to a government with racial policies like South Africa can only weaken the relationship between other industrial nations and other South African nations? It can actually be counterproductive, in that it will make the climate more amenable to penetration by communist nations.

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, I think it is fair to say that the position of the United States government toward South Africa at the moment is somewhat unclear. During the meeting last week we made our position very clear to the United States government. Especially with respect to Namibia, we made it clear that South Africa had no right to be in that country illegally, as it is, by international law.

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HOUSING

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR HOUSING FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works who is responsible for housing. I understand he recently met with representatives of Canada's associations for the handicapped. I am encouraged by some indication that he agreed to increase the allocation for handicapped housing in Vancouver from its present level of 50 units. Could he confirm that he is increasing the allocation for housing for the handicapped in Vancouver and other urban centres in honour of the International Year of the Handicapped?

● (1450)

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works): Madam Speaker, I had the opportunity during the national housing conference, the all-sector conference, to hear representatives of the handicapped associations of Canada, the coalition of handicapped associations. At that time we indicated that the social programs of the government in place under section 56(1) of the act have been adjusted so as to respond to what appears to