

with that stimulus, what is the relationship of that balance he claims has to exist between unemployment and stability of prices? Also, does the minister approve of the government program that dealt with the crisis of inflation by means of creating unemployment?

Mr. Speaker: I trust the minister can reply briefly to the question asked by the hon. member. I recognize the importance of the question, of course, but it sounded to the Chair as though it was a rather general question. The minister might try to reply briefly.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): May I say my question was complex in order to avoid a number of supplementaries. I did not want to lose the chain of questions through the supplementaries.

Mr. Speaker: The minister might give his reply and supplementary replies at the same time.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I would like to supplement my reply when I intervene in the throne speech debate later in the week. I think we can deal at that time with the very profound questions raised by the hon. member.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Can the minister indicate when he is going to speak? Will it be on Thursday or Friday? We would like to have the information now because we would also like to speak on the position of the government.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I will try to work that out with the House leader. I suggest to the hon. member that he stick around.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The Minister of Finance is hardly the one to give a lesson on being present in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

DISPUTE WITH NABET—DEMAND THAT WIRE SERVICE GUILD MEMBERS DO STRIKEBREAKING WORK

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. Can the minister advise the House whether he is being kept informed about developments at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, particularly with regard to the corporation demand that members of the Wire Services Guild, who are not on strike, sign an undertaking that they will do work which is in effect strikebreaking work before they will be admitted to their jobs every day and, if so, has the minister had discussions with the corporation to persuade them to change their unreasonable demand?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, there are different versions of exactly what the position of the workers is in this regard. Several of these have been reported in the press, but the total result is not very clear.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Some reports claim that the employees refuse to work under supervisors who do not belong to the union, while others claim that they are asked to perform duties other than their own.

I have asked for a report on the situation and I shall be in a position to advise the House in the near future.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: Will the minister also ask the CBC whether they will agree to meet with NABET, the striking union, without the condition that NABET meet on the basis of the report? Also, will the minister undertake to make a statement on motions in the House when he finds out exactly what the situation is, because I think the CBC is acting in a medieval manner in this case?

[Later:]

DISPUTE WITH NABET—DIFFERENT POLICIES FOR FRENCH AND ENGLISH NETWORKS

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State. It is supplementary to the earlier question asked about NABET and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. When the minister makes a statement about the resumption of collective bargaining, will he advise us why there are different policies relative to the strike in the French-speaking and English-speaking parts of the network?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I doubt, Mr. Speaker, that I can answer that question because I believe the difference in policy mentioned by the hon. member is due far more to the unions than to the management of the CBC, at least according to the information I have.

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[English]

LABOUR RELATIONS

DISPUTE BETWEEN TREASURY BOARD AND ELECTRICAL WORKERS—POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEDIATOR TO ACHIEVE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS AND SETTLEMENT

Mr. Davis Lewis (York South): May I direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister, not with regard to the CBC but on another urgent matter, in the absence of the President of the Treasury Board. I know that by the roster he is not supposed to be here today. Will the Prime Minister inform the House whether any steps are being taken to seek a new mediator to start negotiations again between Treasury Board and the electronic technicians so that this rather serious stoppage of work may soon come to an end?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the President of the Treasury Board is going to meet a mediator in the middle of this afternoon. I take it, therefore, that a new mediator has been appointed.

[Later:]

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. In light of