Oral Questions

Mr. Blais: A supplementary question. In view of that particular announcement, will the federal government now consider that the moment is right for the federal government to take initiatives to try to pour some oil over the troubled waters between the federal government and that province?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I will certainly use the occasion of the meeting on Monday and Tuesday among provincial treasurers, provincial ministers of finance and myself to explore that. Perhaps the occasion will arise in private conversations with the Alberta minister.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—POSSIBLE CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO OFFER OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS BY UNION

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. During the course of his conversation with Mr. Gralewicz, were any conditions attached to the offer for campaign funds?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Korchinski: Will the minister indicate the nature of his reply at that time? Can he comment on his reply at that time?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am trying to elicit certain facts. My question is within the ambit of questions that are allowed. I am trying to elicit information from the minister which I believe is fundamental to the argument that has been presented here in the past few days. I simply wish to ask the minister the nature of his comment after the contribution offer was made by Mr. Gralewicz.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister may want to reply. The hon. member asked if there were any conditions attached to the offer. The minister said no. The minister earlier indicated he had accepted the offer. The question was put, what was the nature of the minister's reply, can he comment on that? Asking a minister to comment on a situation like this is a very general type of question which does not seem to be suited to the question period.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, can I change my question and ask the minister to indicate what the reply was without making any comment.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): I accepted the offer, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

[Translation]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR FURTHER GRANTS

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Considering the continuing layoffs, particularly in the sawmills, could he say whether the expects to announce soon the provision of supplementary funds for the approval of more local initiative projects during the next season?

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, no decision has been taken to supplement the funding for the Local Initiatives Program. Along with many of my colleagues, including the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, we are aware of that situation. We are working together to see what can be done.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION BY UNESCO AGAINST ISRAEL—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. Is Canada reconsidering its contribution to UNESCO in view of that organization's what might be called ugly politicization and discrimination against one of its members, namely the state of Israel?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I think that question should more properly be addressed to my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—ACTION OF SOLICITOR GENERAL IN ASCERTAINING FROM RCMP WHO SAID MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER INVESTIGATION

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Solicitor General. It arises out of the comment in reply to a question put by the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo. On several occasions the Solicitor General has insisted that the RCMP will be conducting an independent investigation. In reply to the hon. member's question, the Solicitor General stated that when he learned of the report in the Toronto Sun in connection with comments made by the special assistant to the Minister of Labour, he telephoned the RCMP to find out the name of the officer who had made those statements. Clearly, that is not an independent investigation. Will the Solicitor General now turn this investigation over to another minister?