

Inquiries of the Ministry

within provincial jurisdiction and control. Where we can be of assistance to them is in working out standards in a consultative way. We are also trying to work out some acceptable cost-sharing formula, but the administration is theirs.

Mr. Rynard: Mr. Speaker, I should like to remind the minister that this is a national issue, not a provincial one, and it affects everybody.

Mr. Munro: I would remind the hon. member that this is a federal state.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NIGERIA—ALLEGED INADEQUATE PRESS RELEASE BY CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY CONCERNING LOAN FOR HYDRO STATION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs which relates to a news release yesterday from the Canadian International Development Agency about a million dollar loan to Nigeria to assist in building a hydro-electric generating station. I should like to ask why it is that the Canadian International Development Agency is permitted to give what amounts to dishonest and false information in that it refuses to disclose that the loan carries no interest rate, has a repayment free period of 10 years and an additional 40 years within which the loan should be paid? Why was that information not contained in the release?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have no idea, but I think it is quite clear that this is an aspect of the Canadian program which has been highly commended, particularly by people in his party. If he would like me on each occasion to emphasize the generosity of the Canadian people in this respect, I would be happy to do so.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I would be very happy if the minister would do that, and we would be even more happy if the government would be equally as generous at home in providing interest-free money—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT—ALLEGED HIGH RATE IN GASPÉ AND NEW BRUNSWICK—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. As this will be his only appearance in the House this week, I should like to ask him a question based on the startling information that the highest rate of unemployment in

[Mr. Munro.]

Canada is in northern and eastern New Brunswick and Gaspé, having hit 18.4 per cent. What is the minister doing about this?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member appreciates that questions posed in such general terms are hardly in order. The minister might reply briefly and he will be recognized for that purpose.

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a correction first. This is not my first or only appearance in the House this week.

Mr. Bell: During question period it is.

Mr. O'Connell: I was here for the question period—

Mr. Bell: You voted last night but you were not in the House yesterday, my friend.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that we are losing precious time. The minister might reply now that he has made his point.

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INDUSTRY

TARIFF REMISSION ON MICHELIN TIRE IMPORTS—POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT FOR OTHER TIRE MANUFACTURERS

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce with regard to the Michelin Tire arrangement. Since he has been kind enough to give us some factual information for a change about the arrangements made with Michelin in respect of tariff remission, and as an agreement has been made for tariff remission which has not yet been implemented, can the minister say whether he has been approached by other tire companies in Canada seeking the same arrangement and, if so, what has he said to them?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have already said in the House, I think on ten occasions, that we in Industry, Trade and Commerce tried to develop a tire plan which would incorporate some of the philosophy of the Michelin arrangement, but the companies, for different reasons, were not particularly interested and have not developed anything from what was being offered.

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HARBOURS

PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR FISHING COMMUNITIES—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the hardships being caused to inshore fishermen by the continuing rejection by his department