

Availability of Jobs

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member indicated who is seconding the motion?

Mr. Otto: Mr. Speaker, I believe a volunteer has already indicated that he will second it.

Mr. Baldwin: I second the motion, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I will inquire whether there is unanimous consent. I should like to bring to the attention of the hon. member for York East and the hon. member for Peace River, who has seconded the motion, that there might be some difficulty about the form of this motion since it asks the House to consider what economic measures should be taken. I am not sure how this would be done or what would happen if the motion were carried. I appreciate, however, that if the motion were carried unanimously perhaps we might agree on the form of the debate, so I will not pursue the procedural aspect of the motion and will simply inquire whether there is unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

Mr. Baldwin: Who said no?

Mr. McGrath: It was the parliamentary secretary opposite.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS**NUMBER OF JOBS AVAILABLE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to move a motion under Standing Order 43. Its import will be obvious from its content. If there is consent, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin):

That the striking contradiction between the Prime Minister's assertion that there are plenty of jobs available if the unemployed really wanted to work and the results of a survey of Canada Manpower Centres which shows that there are 480,762 persons registered with Manpower looking for work and only 48,057 vacancies to be filled by Manpower—a ratio of 10 to 1 of people looking for jobs over available jobs—be referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration for immediate investigation.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg North. This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

• (2:30 p.m.)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**TRADE****UNITED STATES DISC PROPOSAL—PRESENTATION TO FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OF MEASURES TO OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES FACING CANADIAN EXPORTERS**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, before I ask the Prime Minister a question I want to say on behalf of myself, and particularly on behalf of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, how much we welcome him back.

Mr. Sharp: I second the motion.

Mr. Baldwin: In view of the statement in the communiqué tabled today by the Prime Minister that the provincial first ministers were informed of the efforts of the federal government directed at the reconsideration by the United States of proposed economic measures and at mitigating the effects of such measures, can the Prime Minister tell the House whether the federal government presented to the conference any specific measures to enable Canadian exporters to face the difficulties posed by the proposed tax incentives for U.S. exporters and the DISC proposal?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Nothing beyond what has been stated in the House, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Baldwin: As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, does the rather brief and truncated economic review delivered by the Minister of Finance to the conference contain the sum total of the presentation made by the federal government to the provinces on this particular issue?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I apologize. I missed hearing the question. There was something about a truncated statement. If the hon. member would repeat it I would be glad to answer.

Mr. Baldwin: I am always glad to repeat a question in different form. Does the unusually truncated and brief statement that the Minister of Finance made to the conference contain the sum total of the presentation made by the federal government to the provinces on this issue?

Mr. Trudeau: Well, Mr. Speaker, a communiqué is not a repetition of the speeches which are made. A communiqué is as brief a summary as possible of the general lines and substance of a presentation, so obviously it is not a total summary of what the minister said throughout three days of the conference.

Mr. Baldwin: In view of the decision taken by both Houses of the United States Congress in favour of tax incentives for U.S. exporters, and DISC in one form or another, has the government any contingency plans to assist Canadian exporters and the Canadian economy in this event, and when will these plans be presented to the House of Commons for discussion and appropriate action