

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. C. M. Drury (Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce): Information is not available on the number of unemployed in Hamilton.

UNEMPLOYED AGE GROUPS, CANADA

Question No. 1,883—Mr. Howe (Hamilton South):

What proportions of the following age groups are presently unemployed in Canada (a) 15 to 24 years (b) 25 to 34 years (c) 35 to 44 years (d) 45 to 54 years (e) 55 to 65 years?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce): Unemployment rates⁽¹⁾ for specified age groups, week ended July 18, 1964, Canada: 15 to 24 years, 7.3; 25 to 34 years, 2.4; 35 to 44 years, 2.0; 45 to 54 years, 2.5; 55 to 64 years, 2.8.

⁽¹⁾The unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

VETERANS AFFAIRS, N.B.—CASES TREATED OUTSIDE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Question No. 1,567—Mr. MacRae:

1. For the province of New Brunswick, how many cases of war pensioners (all classifications) were operated on or treated medically outside of Lancaster military hospital for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1963 and for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1964?
2. What was the diagnosis and treatment; in what hospital did it take place; and who was the surgeon and attending physician?
3. How were these cases dealt with by the treatment officer and under what rule and regulation was the case accepted or turned down?
4. Who were the treatment officers involved in each case?
5. How many cases were paid for as an emergency and how many were paid who had prior authorization for the so-called elective admission?
6. In how many cases was authorization given after so-called elective admission?

Return tabled.

PUBLIC SERVICE APPOINTMENTS BY ORDER IN COUNCIL

Question No. 1,596—Mr. MacRae:

1. Who are the employees of the public service appointed by order in council in receipt of a salary in excess of \$18,000 per annum?
2. What is the exact salary of each?
3. What is the position that each fills?

Return tabled.

FISHERIES

REGULATIONS RESPECTING KILLING OF SEALS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I think I will direct

this question to the Prime Minister. It arises out of an article which appeared in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* entitled "Baby seal killing", and so forth. The article deals with a full page story in the German newspaper *Weekend* circulated in many countries, entitled "This scandal should shock the world". The article suggests that the killing of seals is so cruel and inhumane that action should be taken and that, among other things, letters should be directed to the Prime Minister and to myself in this connection.

I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he has not received almost an avalanche of letters on this question; and whether under the circumstances, in view of the statement as far back as May last, in answer to questions by myself and other members, that amendments would be made to the law to put an end to this practice which, as described, is dastardly cruel. Among the matters that will be introduced before this session ends will there be legislation to bring about an end to this practice and to improve Canada's image, which cannot but be seriously damaged in this regard.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the article in question in the *German Weekend* magazine, though I will take steps to get a copy of it. My right hon. friend knows that the Minister of Fisheries made a statement in the house, I think it was last week, in which he indicated that action was going to be taken in respect of this matter and that he would make a report to the house shortly in regard to that action. I will be glad to look into the matter along the lines suggested by my right hon. friend.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, may I then ask the Minister of Fisheries, now that four or five months have passed since he undertook, in answer to the hon. member for Ontario, to bring in legislation, whether this legislation will be introduced so that this practice which seriously defaces Canada's image will at least be subject to punishment.

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, as I have stated on numerous occasions in this house, the government and this department are concerned with the practice which has been going on for a number of years in respect of the killing of seals. As I stated in reply to a question by the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam last Thursday, I believe it was, the regulations respecting the killing of seals in Atlantic