

view of the recent strong condemnation of the United States voiced by the minister and by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources in relation to pollution of the Great Lakes, can the minister advise the House what steps have been taken, if any, concerning the industries at Dryden, Ontario and Saskatoon which are causing extensive pollution of Manitoba waters.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, neither industry has polluted the Great Lakes system in any way. However, we have had meetings with the companies concerned and they have stopped dumping mercury into the adjoining waters.

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INDUSTRY

ELECTRONICS—HARDSHIPS CREATED BY ALLEGED DUMPING OF FOREIGN TELEVISION SETS

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the charge by the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers Association that foreign competition is creating undue hardship and high unemployment in the Canadian electronic industry, has the government made any move to investigate charges that Japan and Taiwan are dumping television sets in this country and, if so, will any tariff relief be granted to Canadian manufacturers?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, anyone who is injured can allege dumping and there is a procedure whereby national revenue looks into the matter forthwith; we have an anti-dumping tribunal to look into such matters.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Finance tell the House whether he has received any such representations from the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers Association.

Mr. Benson: I have not myself, but I could not answer for the Minister of National Revenue in this regard. However, I shall make inquiries.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

LIBERAL POLICY CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Could the Prime Minister inform the House whether or not the government is considering acting on the recommendation of the Liberal policy convention that Canada declare itself a nuclear-free zone.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Well, Mr. Speaker, there will be a white paper on defence policy in which all these subjects will be considered.

Inquiries of the Ministry

FINANCE

PURPOSE OF INCREASE IN MONEY SUPPLY

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, this question is for the Minister of Finance. It concerns some of the interesting activities of the Bank of Canada in the last several weeks. In light of the rapidly expanding money supply, I wonder whether the minister could tell us if the Bank of Canada is acting to expand the economy or is it supporting the Canadian dollar in the international market in order to maintain a subpar value for the Canadian dollar vis-à-vis the United States dollar?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, with regard to transactions on the exchange market, these become known only at the end of the month when figures are published, and my hon. friend can understand the reason for this. What has happened over the past eight or nine months is that the money supply has been increased by the Bank of Canada deliberately in order to stimulate the economy along with the steps that were taken on the fiscal side by the government.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Would the side effect of this be to maintain the Canadian dollar at a slightly subpar value in relation to the United States dollar in the hope that the Canadian dollar would soon be pegged at some value just below the United States dollar?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I do not think the reasoning that my hon. friend has brought forward is necessarily correct. The reason for the expansion in the money supply is the obvious one I have stated previously, that we are expanding the economy and have a much easier monetary policy than we had a year ago or eight months ago.

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POST OFFICE

INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS FROM RETROACTIVE PAY

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister responsible for the Post Office. My question was originally directed to the minister on Thursday, November 19. I would like to remind him of it. In view of complaints from postal workers that sums approaching \$165 in income tax have been deducted from retroactive pay amounting to \$574 awarded to postal workers will the minister undertake to determine if the amounts deducted at source are excessive?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Minister without Portfolio): Following that question, Mr. Speaker, I asked officials of my department to check whether errors had been made in issuing these cheques. It seems that such is the case and I have asked the Departments of National Revenue and Supply and Services to inquire into this matter and remedy the situation.