

Inquiries of the Ministry

to the Bowater case, which is the one my hon. friend has in mind at the moment, I must say that I have received no requests for assistance either from the company or from the Newfoundland government. However, my officials are in touch with both the government of Newfoundland and the company in London and have made their services available if the need arises.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if he intends to propose to his colleagues in the government the placing of a moratorium on further grants to new paper mills in Canada until world market conditions improve?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I think the problem is more complicated than the hon. member is implying at this time.

Mr. McGrath: You are building new mills.

Mr. Pepin: There are things called new mills which have the higher degree of productivity; there are things called older mills which have a lower degree of productivity, and there are things called multinational companies.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

CRIMINAL CODE

INQUIRY AS TO DEBATE ON ABORTION

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the numerous postponements and the very great dangers and difficulties caused thereby, is the Prime Minister now in a position to give us the date when we can expect the debate on abortion which was promised several times in the past?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to give any date at this time. I think we have made the House aware that we want to proceed with the legislation on tax reform at the outset of this part of the session and then we will see, as things develop, what time we have left for other items.

Mrs. MacInnis: But may we still have an assurance that this debate will be held in this session?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, that would be the government's intention, but I am not in a position to control absolutely the time that the House will take with prior legislation and therefore I cannot give that firm commitment. If we get through other items in reasonable time, then the answer is yes.

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FINANCESPECIAL TAX OR LOAN PROGRAMS TO ASSIST
CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN IN ADDITION TO
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT BILL

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that business failures are increasing very rapidly in 1971, which is having a disastrous effect on

[Mr. Pepin.]

the economy, may I ask the minister whether, over and above the measures the government intends to introduce with respect to the 10 per cent surcharge on imports imposed by the United States, the government is developing any special tax or loan programs which will assist Canadian businessmen to maintain and expand production and employment and, if so, is the minister going to make a statement to this effect?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I did make such a statement on June 18.

Mr. Alexander: Are you going to make another one?

Mr. Benson: Let's deal with the last budget first.

Mr. Alexander: Let's deal with the present situation.

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[Translation]

YOUTHOPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—CONTINUATION
OF PRESENT POLICY

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Secretary of State.

In view of the unusual success of the Opportunities for Youth program, would the minister state whether this policy will be continued next year or whether he will be in a position to state in the near future, with a view to reassuring young people that a similar policy will be set up?

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member is referring to the possibility that certain programs be implemented next year, then the question is not that urgent. In any case the hon. minister might reply briefly before we proceed with the orders of the day.

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Very quickly, Mr. Speaker. We are now very actively engaged in assessing the results of this year's programs and studying the activities which the government would be able to undertake next summer. We are therefore farther ahead in this field today than at this same period last year.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members will have noted that the question period expired a few minutes ago, but in view of the difficulty we have had with the sound system I felt that a few additional minutes should be allowed. I suggest to hon. members that although a number of hon. members have been waiting for an opportunity to ask questions, and I have tried to note whether they were, we should at this point call for orders of the day.