

energy. It is quite possible that such competitions or other tests could encourage Canadian inventions in that sector.

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[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH BODY TO SET STANDARDS FOR WORKERS IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, on October 9, 1974, before the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration the Minister of Labour in answer to questions put by myself referred to the need for "some type of formal structure for ongoing discussions" between labour and management "that could possibly lead to setting up some central body that would have the confidence of both sides and that could come up with comparisons . . . criteria and standards that should be acceptable with respect to workers in various categories . . . some standard against which you can judge what is fair and reasonable". Could the minister advise the House whether this concept was discussed at the recent meetings with labour representatives and, if so, whether labour expressed any interest or sympathy toward the proposal?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, informal discussions were held with labour representatives and the general idea received heartfelt endorsement.

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, would the minister advise the House whether, since his comments of October last, he and his department have done any work toward the establishment of such a body and, if so, when can we expect that the details will be made public?

● (1130)

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): That will be a matter for a policy decision of the government at the time it is taken and announced, but work is being done on it in the department.

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LABOUR RELATIONS

SUGGESTED CREATION OF LABOUR RELATIONS COUNCIL—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour on this very important matter. Knowing that the minister is aware of the urgent and pressing need to improve labour management relations and protect the public interest, will he consider most seriously asking cabinet to approve the creation of a body to be designated the "Canada Labour Relations Council" to assist the government in a regular review of issues affecting labour relations where the emphasis would be on the parties seeking joint solutions to their problems but where the government's lively interest in the resolution of these questions, with all that it

Oral Questions

implies, would be felt? Some of the objectives for the council, I would suggest very briefly to the minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the minister understands the sense of the question.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): That is a representation, Mr. Speaker, and is being taken as such.

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

POSSIBLE USE OF SMALLER CAR TO SAVE GASOLINE

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): I have a question for the Prime Minister. Last night the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources informed the House that the government intended to give leadership to the country by way of conserving energy, particularly in the use of large automobiles that are heavy users of gasoline. Is it the intention of the Prime Minister as the leader of the government to give leadership in this matter by disposing of his two large automobiles which are very heavy users of gasoline and to start using a much smaller automobile in their place?

An hon. Member: A bullet proof bicycle.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would gladly convey this representation to the Solicitor General and to the RCMP. I would be anxious to see it happen, if it is possible. Perhaps I will ask them to try to armour a small car. If they could make the Fiat 300 SL bullet-proof, I would much prefer to drive that.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES OF UNITED STATES CIA IN CANADA—NAME OF LIAISON OFFICER

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Last Friday, when I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs about the Canadian activities of the American Central Intelligence Agency, he replied that "there is no knowledge of any CIA activity in Canada, except that of the well known liaison officer who is established here as a liaison officer only". May I ask the minister whether, when he referred to a well known liaison officer, he was speaking of Mr. Cleveland Cram, who is described in the diplomatic corps directory as an attaché with the American embassy, or was he referring to some other well known liaison officer?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I was referring to the fact that it is well known that there is a liaison officer here.

Mr. Beatty: Who?