

● (1440)

Mr. Lefebvre: Mr. Speaker, would the minister be willing to attend a public meeting in the upper Ottawa valley—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lefebvre:—when he is ready to make such a statement, so that the citizens who are very interested in this project could be there personally to question him on his statement?

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON PROVISION IN PROGRAM FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF PRICE INCREASES

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. On Friday, in answer to a question concerning prior notification of price increases on some products, the minister noted that such a proposal was impractical and then went on to say that he would consider the suggestion. On the same day, Mr. Pépin announced that certain companies would be required to give prior notification of price increases. In view of that, can the minister say whether or not such prior notification will be part of the government's control package?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): To put the record straight on that, may I point out that I said that prior notification on all products was impractical. I also pointed out in my speech—which I commend to the hon. gentleman—that indeed Mr. Pépin proposed to require prior notification in some cases where that was a practical possibility.

Mr. Nystrom: As a follow up I should like to ask the minister whether he can tell the House for which industries or which products or commodities prior notification of price increases will be required as a necessity. If he cannot tell that to the House now, can he say when he will be notifying the public?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): That is allied to the question asked by the hon. member for York-Simcoe earlier about notification and about the companies to which notification has been sent. I will be glad to advise the House and the standing committee on the full details of this as soon as I can provide the information.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO COVER FISHERMEN—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who is responsible for unemployment insurance. In view of the fact that the proposed income

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support program for fishermen, which was to be implemented by July, 1975, is not as yet implemented, and there is a danger that it might be further delayed, has the minister taken action within his jurisdiction to change the Unemployment Insurance Act as proposed by various provinces to overcome the existing inequities to fishermen?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, it was decided some time ago that policy development in these areas more properly falls within the jurisdiction of my colleague, the Minister of State for Fisheries, while the Unemployment Insurance Commission may continue to provide the delivery system and the administration of whatever policy change will be decided upon in that area.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—EFFECT OF WAGE GUIDELINES ON FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AWAITING RECLASSIFICATION

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Finance. Many employees of what was once known as the Defence Research Board, a part of the Department of National Defence, and possibly other public servants have either been denied their normal salary increments or have been prevented from bargaining because they have been waiting for months now on Treasury Board for reclassification and certification. Since the situation has been protracted inordinately as a result of Treasury Board dilatoriness, will the minister say whether the recently published guidelines will be made applicable to these employees?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if I could draw the attention of the hon. member to the guidelines he might find the section in which reference is made to the transitional situation of such employees.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT—POSSIBILITY OF ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED—REFERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment. In July the text of a note of protest from the Government of Canada to the government of the United States over the Garrison Diversion project was issued, part of which reads:

The Government of Canada, therefore, is pleased to learn that consideration is being given to alternatives to the current Garrison Diversion unit which would not adversely affect Canada.

The Government of Canada has not yet been officially informed . . .

I should like to ask the minister, since that note was issued some four months ago, if she could inform the House whether or not there are alternatives to the Garrison Diversion unit being considered, and whether or not