

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, if the government has been finally activated into getting together with these people I am very happy to hear it.

Mr. Nicholson: That is more than the previous government did.

Mr. Chatterton: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister consider delaying any drastic action until these people have had a chance for a public hearing?

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Speaker, that question was answered on or about July 15 and again in the month of August.

AVAILABILITY OF APPLICATION FORMS FOR WINTER CONSTRUCTION BONUS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. When will the application forms for the bonus on winter built houses be available?

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): September 31.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): I will advise my hon. friend.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the reply of the minister, and I think this is a most urgent question. I have a supplementary question if I can get an answer to the original.

Mr. Churchill: What is your answer?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I answered my hon. friend, and I am sure he did not hear me because of the noise in the chamber.

Mr. MacInnis: Having acknowledged the fact that I did not hear the minister, would he now please make himself heard and not be arrogant?

Mr. MacEachen: I will be glad to make inquiries and advise my hon. friend as to the date when these application forms will be available.

Mr. Churchill: Check your calendar carefully.

Mr. MacInnis: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the minister whether he would consider the fact that many prospective home builders now wish to put in basements before the frost sets in, and will this disqualify them from the bonus if they proceed with the building of the house during the specified time?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what potential disqualification my hon. friend has in mind.

Mr. MacInnis: To clear it up for the minister, the potential disqualification is the fact that prospective builders who wish to put in basements before the frost sets in do not wish to disqualify themselves by so doing before the specified time of the bonus that is applicable. Is that clear enough?

Mr. MacEachen: I thought the question had to do with application forms; however, it has to do with the conditions of the program. These conditions are clearly set out. I do not think the case indicated by my hon. friend would constitute any disqualification.

LABOUR RELATIONS

POSSIBLE EFFECT OF PROSPECTIVE STRIKE OF U.S. LONGSHOREMEN

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the strike deadline set for tomorrow midnight by the United States longshoremen's international union and the distinct possibility that Canadian longshoremen in eastern ports may walk out in sympathy with this strike, can the Minister of Labour assure us this is only a possibility? If not, what action is the government prepared to take to avert this situation?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to make a comment on a situation that is still hypothetical.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the responsible minister may I direct my question to the Prime Minister and ask him whether any agency of the federal government is negotiating with any agencies of the provincial governments with respect to the transfer of jurisdiction over the Indian people of Canada from the federal government to the provincial governments.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this question has come up several times and has been answered. I suggest that my hon. friend put it on the order