

Inquiries of the Ministry

work and the new plant will have to remain idle until such time as the electrical workers and contractors in Sarnia come to an agreement, which I hope will be soon. The department of labour of the province of Ontario had a mediator on the site last week for two days and I understand he is coming back again this week.

CAPE BRETON, N.S.—SPEED UP OF
PUBLIC WORKS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Malcolm MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Again, in view of the dire unemployment situation in the industrial Cape Breton area, is it the plan of the federal government to speed up their program or schedule of public works in this area in order to provide needed and urgent employment opportunities?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the government and the Department of Public Works is aware of its responsibilities and are taking every step to discharge those responsibilities to the fullest extent.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS TO ACT
THIS SESSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. C. Cadieu (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Can the minister say if the government has any plans to revise the Indian Act at this session of parliament?

Hon. Richard A. Bell (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, a thorough revision of the Indian Act based upon the report of the select committee of the Senate and the House of Commons is under active drafting. The complexity and importance of the act are such that I am advised it will likely be early in the new year before the drafting can be completed. At that stage the bill would be introduced for first reading, not with the intention of proceeding at this session of parliament but at a subsequent session. In the interim it would be my intention to meet on a provincial basis with representatives of the Indians in every province to discuss the important provisions which are proposed.

MANITOBA—ALLEGED DENIAL OF TRAINING
IN SKILLED OCCUPATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John R. Matheson (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of [Mr. O'Hurley.]

Labour. Has the minister looked into the complaint of 80 Manitoba Indians at Thompson, Manitoba that they have been refused training in skilled occupations as reported in the *Times* of London of September 22 last?

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): This matter has not been brought to my attention. In any event, the actual training is undertaken by the provincial government.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

SONS OF FREEDOM, B.C.—REPORTED STATEMENT
BY B.C. ATTORNEY GENERAL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arthur Laing (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, my question relates to the Freedomite sect in the province of British Columbia. I would have addressed it to the Minister of Justice, but in his absence I will address it to the former minister of justice. Has his attention been drawn to the statement of the attorney general of the province of British Columbia that this problem is beyond solving by the provincial government and they have been cut adrift by the national government? May I also ask as a supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Order. One question at a time. Again, supplementaries are only permitted to clarify an answer that has been given, not to put an entirely new premise on a question.

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Acting Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the intention of the hon. member to ask this question was referred to me as Acting Minister of Justice and I made inquiries. While the particular statement quoted had not previously been drawn to my attention, I have since checked with the office of the minister and I find that at least within the last ten days no request for assistance has been made to the minister or his department.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INQUIRY AS TO REPLENISHMENT OF FUND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. R. Berger (Vancouver-Burrard): I should like the Minister of Labour to say what steps the government has been taking to replenish the unemployment insurance fund.

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): At the moment there is no need to replenish the unemployment insurance fund.

[Later:]

Mr. J. M. Forgie (Renfrew North): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. According to the report of the advisory committee the unemployment insurance fund is