

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Chevrier: You have not been doing very much.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Will there be an announcement one way or another before the end of the session?

Mr. Starr: As soon as a decision is reached an announcement will be made.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): That means there will not be anything done.

URANIUM CITY, SASK.—INQUIRY AS TO
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Has the minister's parliamentary secretary yet reported to him on his trip to Uranium City, Saskatchewan, and his survey of the conditions there which he described as a small-sized Elliot Lake; and has the government decided as a result of this survey and the presentation made by the Saskatchewan government to take any action to relieve this situation?

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): There was no necessity for the parliamentary secretary to report to me on this investigation. This matter was not taken up on behalf of the Department of Labour.

Mr. Argue: May I ask whether the government has agreed to take any action to relieve this situation as a result of the submission made to it in recent days by the government of Saskatchewan?

Mr. Starr: The matter is still under active consideration, and as the Minister of Trade and Commerce said on previous occasions in answer to questions similar to one the hon. member is asking now, an announcement of government policy will be made at the appropriate time.

Mr. Chevrier: It has been and will be forever and ever.

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): Is the minister aware that the inquiry into this matter began last November.

Mr. Starr: I am well aware of it.

SHIPPING

GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY, N.S.—STATEMENT ON
RESUMPTION OF SERVICE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on Saturday last the hon. member for Antigonish-Guysborough asked me a question with regard to the resumption of service formerly carried out by the *C. and E. Burke*. It is expected that a contract will be signed for the balance of the season with

[Mr. Starr.]

the Co-operative de Transport Maritime et Aerien of Magdalen islands, using the *M.V. Flojald II* to carry out the Halifax-Guysborough service for the balance of the season.

It should be possible by using this vessel to initiate service with the new ship in approximately one week.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

MONTREAL, QUE.—REPORT ON FATAL ACCIDENT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Laurier asked me a question regarding the Canadian National Railways line on which an unfortunate accident occurred over the week end. I am advised by Canadian National Railways that there is no centralized traffic control in operation at present on the line where the accident occurred.

As to the second part of the hon. member's question, the management state that this line has been under study for some time as a candidate for C.T.C. installation, and that the study has progressed to a point that warranted inclusion of a commitment item in the 1960 capital budget of the railway.

AGRICULTURE

DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS—MEETINGS WITH
WESTERN FARM ORGANIZATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): May I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether arrangements have yet been made to meet with the liaison committee of western grain producers?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): I have nothing further to add on this subject to what has been said previously in the house.

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): May I ask a supplementary question of a different nature. Has the minister or the government replied to the communications from the farmers' union concerning negotiations on acreage payments, the first of which I believe came to the government on May 10? Has any reply whatever been given to those communications?

Mr. Harkness: I do not know to what communications the hon. member is referring, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Argue: Telegrams and letters.

Mr. Harkness: As I say, I do not know to what communications he is referring, so I am in no position to answer the question. So far as I can recall at the moment, I have had no telegrams or letters from the Saskatchewan farmers' union in connection with this matter during the last month or six weeks.