

Inquiries of the Ministry

of policy respecting the development of tourist accommodation within the national parks. Can he tell the house when that statement will be available?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, we have almost completed a general statement in respect of the objectives and principles of our national parks management, and I hope to place it before the house at a very early date.

SOCIAL INSURANCE**RETURN OF APPLICATION CARDS FILLED OUT THROUGH MISUNDERSTANDING**

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gerard Laprise (Chapleau): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Labour. Now that he has undoubtedly received the telegram from the Quebec Catholic teachers corporation protesting against social security numbers, could he tell us whether he has given instructions so as to enable those who had already completed their cards to withdraw them if they so desire, since they were in no way obliged to do so?

[*Text*]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker.

PROTEST FROM SECRETARY OF ALBERTA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. J. W. Fane (Vegreville): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have done quite a few push-ups trying to be noticed. I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Has the minister received a protest in the last few days from Mr. S. C. T. Clarke, executive secretary of the Alberta teachers association, protesting against the fact that the teachers of Alberta are being required to apply for social insurance numbers. If he has received this telegram, will he inform the house what he proposes to do about it?

Mr. Speaker: If I remember correctly, it seems to me that I suggested to many members who had similar telegrams from their geographical localities, they should put these questions on the order paper.

SHIPPING**CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION RESPECTING MERCHANT MARINE**

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Robert Beaulé (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the

[*Mr. Olson.*]

Prime Minister. Can he tell the house if he will follow up the report submitted by the national federation of metallurgists about building up a Canadian merchant marine?

[*Text*]

Mr. Speaker: This is a question for the order paper.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS**ALASKA HIGHWAY—INQUIRY AS TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED STATES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Public Works whether any negotiations have yet been commenced with the government of the United States, or have there been any requests for such negotiations, concerning a joint cost sharing program involving the paving of the Alaska highway?

Hon. J. P. Deschatelets (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I answered a similar question a few days ago when I said that at this time officials of the department are making studies and surveys with regard to the cost and the economic benefit of this project. Until a complete report is made no negotiations will be entered into with the government of the United States.

Mr. Nielsen: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I also asked the minister if he had received any requests from the government of the United States for the commencement of such negotiations.

Mr. Deschatelets: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Public Works. With the transfer of authority for the maintenance of the Alaska highway from defence to public works, does the minister have anything to report on the resumption of negotiations between the United States and Canada for the completion of the highway?

Mr. Deschatelets: Mr. Speaker, I answered a similar question a few minutes ago. May I say to the hon. member that as soon as the surveys now going on are completed I will gladly report to the house on the decision which will be taken in respect of any negotiations with the United States government.