

union at Powell River. Very few of their numbers had ever been employed by the Powell River Company, and in these few instances only as temporary help, and the company refused to accede to the demands. That port was then declared unfair, and again the Vancouver longshoremen refused to load or unload ships moving to or from Powell River.

The shipping federation maintain that the agreement under which they have been operating has been violated in at least seven instances. Following this latter difficulty, the shipping federation made application under date of May 25 for the establishment of a board of conciliation and investigation. This application reached the department on May 30, a board was established the following day and both parties to the dispute were accordingly notified by telegraph. No nominations were received from either party and under date of June 5 the shipping federation telegraphed withdrawing their application and advising that the present agreement had been cancelled. Upon receipt of this telegram a wire was dispatched to the federation and also the longshoremen's association urging that all matters in dispute should be dealt with through board procedure and that in the meantime both parties should agree to adhere strictly to the terms of the present agreement. The shipping federation replied that they could not go on with this proposal, inasmuch as they had already entered into an agreement with another union. No reply whatever was received from the longshoremen's representatives. No action has yet been taken to cancel the establishment of the board.

Sympathetic strikes have been called by the Coastwise Longshoremen and Freight Handlers' Association of Vancouver, Seafarers' Industrial Union of Vancouver, and Marine Transport Union of Nanaimo. All of these groups, including Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers' Association, are affiliated with the Longshoremen and Water Transport Workers of Canada, and are said to be controlled by the Workers Unity League and that group of known extremists.

The Deputy Minister of Labour has been in communication by long distance telephone this morning with Mr. F. E. Harrison, who has been from the outset closely in touch with both parties to the dispute. Last evening there was a three hour conference with representatives of the men and the shipping federation, but in the meantime violence was resorted to, not with arms but with sticks and clubs as indicated in the press this morn-

ing. Neither the Department of Labour nor the Department of Justice is further informed with respect to the matter, except that the mayor of Vancouver has publicly stated that the matter is under control. There was a number of mounted police on the Ballantyne pier; they had been asked to remain there by the chief of police of Vancouver and by the Vancouver harbour board, as well as by the attorney general of the province of British Columbia. There is no further information that we have available at the moment. It is not contemplated in view of the facts I have recited that an inquiry should be held and in view of the statement made by the mayor of Vancouver this morning as to the forces that were organized behind this outbreak yesterday it is not thought desirable that any further action should be taken at the moment unless requested.

MONTREAL HARBOUR

On the orders of the day:

Hon. FERNAND RINFRET (St. James): In the absence of the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau) I should like to ask the Prime Minister if a delegation from the harbour commissioners of Montreal has been in Ottawa to-day concerning the depth of the water in the harbour and, if so, if we can expect a declaration from the government on the matter.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I fancy the hon. member is aware of the fact that a delegation did meet the Minister of Marine and other members of the government, but the conference was protracted to such an extent that the minister is not yet in his place.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY COMMISSION

ADMINISTRATIVE, ADVISORY AND INVESTIGATORY
FUNCTIONS—PROVISION FOR A DIRECTOR
OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved the third reading of Bill No. 86, to establish a dominion trade and industry commission.

Hon. H. H. STEVENS (East Kootenay): Mr. Speaker, in rising to say a few words in connection with the third reading of this bill I desire to take advantage of this opportunity to express some views in connection with the manner in which the report of the price spreads committee and commission has been implemented, and also to direct the attention of the house to a few matters relating thereto which I believe should receive very careful and thoughtful consideration by the house.