

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Bourget:** Well, give me a little time and I will ask the question. Due to the fact that the project that has been approved in my constituency comes within the terms of reference of protection works, is the minister going to accept it?

**Mr. Green:** Mr. Speaker, I answered the hon. member a few minutes ago. I am really astonished that he should raise this question today. The new government hopes to put this protection back on a businesslike basis, and not on the basis of awarding party prizes.

**DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS****ASSISTANCE TO EMPLOYABLE UNEMPLOYED**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can the minister at this time inform the house as to when the financial and other contractual agreements will be signed with our provincial governments relative to the payment of assistance to the employable unemployed who are not covered by unemployment insurance?

**Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the hon. member an answer to that question. It is a matter for discussion between this government and the provinces, who will be meeting here. It is one of the problems which will be discussed at that time.

**Mr. Winch:** Then may I ask a supplementary question. While you are waiting for that discussion to take place, how are these people supposed to live?

**COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT****PULPWOOD—STATEMENT ON PROGRESS OF REPORT OF INQUIRY**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Maltais) asked me whether I could give a report as to the progress of an inquiry under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act into the pulpwood industry. I told the hon. member that I would try to give him a reply at the earliest possible date. I should perhaps say that, as the house knows, the practice has been established over the years of not making reports of such investigations until all matters are concluded and a decision has been reached. However, there are exceptions and this is one of them, inasmuch as this inquiry originated as the result of a statement made in the house. I can therefore

[Mr. Bourget.]

deal with it only to the extent of telling the hon. member that it is not possible to say when a report may be made. The director informs me that the parties concerned have recently asked for a short postponement of the final hearing in order that they may bring additional information before the commission. The director anticipates that the commission will be seized of the case by the end of this calendar year, after which it will be a question as to how soon the commission can conclude their inquiry and make their report.

**HOUSING****REFERENCE TO RESOLUTION RESPECTING LOW COST HOUSING**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. J. Robichaud (Gloucester):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Can the minister advise this house whether he has received a copy of a resolution dealing with low cost housing passed by the National Retail Lumbermen's Council of Canada at their eleventh annual meeting held at Clear Lake, Manitoba, in September of this year; and if so, what action if any has the government taken to implement the recommendations contained therein?

**Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I would be obliged to ask in my department to see whether I have had a copy of those recommendations. The action the government has taken with respect to housing has already been mentioned this afternoon and it has been extremely effective in all parts of Canada except, unfortunately, in my own province of British Columbia and in the maritime provinces, particularly in the maritime provinces. There they do not seem to be taking advantage of the provision which has been made.

**Mr. Robichaud:** Could the minister tell the house if any action has been taken by the government to give further consideration to the building of low cost houses which are badly needed in the maritimes?

**Mr. Green:** The hon. member apparently has not familiarized himself with the policy which has been adopted and which is designed to help in the building of low cost homes. It is having that effect; the average price of the homes being built under this policy is a good deal lower than was the average under the policy which was followed by the former government.