

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, June 12, 1958

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

First report of standing committee on external affairs.—Mr. White.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

CHANGE IN HOURS OF SITTING ON JUNE 13—
VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF UNITED
KINGDOM

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved:

That, when this house adjourns on Thursday, June 12, it stand adjourned until 11.30 a.m., Friday, June 13.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps while this matter is in our minds I might remind hon. members that there is a reception this afternoon to meet the Right Hon. Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in the railway committee room at 5.30 p.m. It is a reception given by the Speakers jointly. Presumably senators will adjourn earlier and be there by 5.30 so there will be free passage for the members at six o'clock. While on that subject, I might say this. Does the Prime Minister intend to say anything about tomorrow's proceedings?

Mr. Diefenbaker: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The adjournment asked for, of course, is designed to make possible the appearance within this chamber of Right Hon. Mr. Macmillan where he will deliver a speech to both houses of parliament.

Mr. Speaker: Just to complete the matter may I say this. The reception this afternoon is for the members and unfortunately does not include their wives. It is for the members of both houses and the press gallery plus some members of our visitor's party. I think you have all been advised that tomorrow the bell will be rung shortly before ten o'clock. I have taken the liberty of authorizing that the bell be rung, although it is not a session of the house, at ten or twelve minutes to ten. Both houses will assemble then to hear our distinguished guest.

Motion agreed to.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

QUEBEC—APPLICATION TO HOSPITAL
PERSONNEL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Alexis Caron (Hull): I would like to address a question to the Minister of Labour, or in his absence to the Acting Minister of

Labour. Are the hospital administrators and employees subject to the Unemployment Insurance Act? Does this apply even in the province of Quebec and, if not, why not?

Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough (Acting Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, employees in a hospital not operated for gain are not insurable except in the case of those persons employed on a temporary or casual basis, such as in construction, renovation or repair workers. However, any hospital may, at its option and with the consent of the unemployment insurance commission, insure any designated group of employees it wishes; that is an optional arrangement.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ROYAL COMMISSION ON ENERGY—REQUEST FOR
HEARINGS IN THE KOOTENAYS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, with high hopes and great expectations I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that present plans do not provide for the Borden commission holding hearings in the Kootenays; in view of the great importance to Canada's economy of the development of the Columbia and Kootenay rivers, and in view of the local desire for hearings to be held in the Kootenay area, would the Prime Minister inform the house if arrangements can be made to meet the wishes of the Kootenay people, who are anxious to make a contribution to the fund of ideas and facts being collected by the commission?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I did not receive notice of this question but I think I can answer it. The commission has held sittings in British Columbia and in Alberta, and I do not know what further arrangements the commission has in mind with respect to extending its sittings in the province of British Columbia. It is regrettable that the interest of the people of the Kootenay area was not made known to the commission at an earlier date. At least if it was I have no knowledge of that fact. I will, however, communicate with the chairman with a view to ascertaining whether the laudable and desirable end which the hon. gentleman seeks to achieve may yet be made possible.