

Inquiries of the Ministry

question. I was able to hear only three or four words of it and I agreed to take it as notice and reply later.

The hon. member inquired what steps were being taken with regard to threats of a widespread strike in the Montreal area and its possible effect on Expo '67. I think the hon. gentleman and the house generally will be interested to know that an agreement has been entered into with the trade unions, among them being the Building and Construction Trades Council of Montreal and vicinity Q.F.L.-C.L.C., and the Council of Syndicates of the Construction Trades of Montreal, C.N.T.U., which provides that there shall be no strike or work stoppage or picketing which would be an obstacle to the organization, management or liquidation of the exhibition. In case of strike action or picketing the unions agree to proclaim such actions as illegal and in violation of the agreement and they undertake to urge their members to resume work.

As may be seen from this agreement, Expo and the unions have agreed to deal with strikes or picketing which could hinder the exhibition. I would therefore hope that the hon. member can accept the assurance given by my colleague, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and by the Expo authorities that everything possible has been, and is being done to deal with labour problems which might adversely affect the progress of the exhibition.

VETERANS AFFAIRS**INQUIRY AS TO ACTION RESPECTING
AMENDMENT OF LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Kootenay West asked me a question which contained three parts. I am not sure whether I am clear as to the intent of the question. The first part dealt with amendments to the Pension Act. So far as pension rates are concerned, I have dealt with these in answer to a previous question. We are awaiting the outcome of talks with the veterans organizations. As to amendments to any other parts of the Pension Act we will of course await the report of the committee of inquiry under Mr. Justice Wood. There is no intention at the moment of dealing with amendments to the War Veterans Allowance Act. I believe I answered the question dealing with the report on the Hong Kong veterans yesterday as well.

[Mr. Nicholson.]

CANADIAN CONFEDERATION**INQUIRY INTO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
FORCES AFFECTING UNITY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister concerning an important matter about which I asked him a question approximately a week ago. He then said he would look into it. Can the right hon. gentleman advise us now whether the interdepartmental inquiry into the economic and social forces affecting the unity of Canada has been completed and, if so, whether this report will be made available to members of the house?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked me this question the other day. On inquiry I find that the report itself was tabled in this house during May, 1965, and thereby made available to members. At that time it was stated that this study would be continued by the tax structure committee. It is now being carried on by them.

POWER**REPORT ON MEETING OF COMMITTEE
ON TIDAL POWER**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Mr. Speaker, may I answer a question which was put to the Prime Minister last Friday by the hon. member for Colchester-Hants. It had to do with tidal power in the Bay of Fundy. A meeting of officials on this subject took place in Ottawa last Thursday, February 10. On the federal side the meeting was attended by officials responsible to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys and the Minister of Transport. They met with officials representing the governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. I am advised that the meeting, which was largely exploratory in nature, was highly successful. The results of the meeting have, of course, to be reported to the responsible ministers. Following that, we hope a mutually satisfactory understanding can be reached between the parties.

FORESTRY**UNION REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING
NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Forestry in connection with the