

Canadian Flag

[Later:]

Hon. Léon Balcer (Three Rivers): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can he make a report to the house on the situation in the harbour of Montreal and inform the house whether anything is being done to stop the longshoremen's strike which has started there and to prevent it from spreading to the harbours of Three Rivers, Quebec and Saint John?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, happily the strike is confined at present to the port of Montreal and there is no indication that it will spread to Three Rivers or Quebec. The issue in dispute really is an issue between locals of the I.L.A. and the administrators of the pension fund. Judge Lippe, who was appointed commissioner subsequent to the last strike, is now engaged in resolving these differences with respect to the operation of the pension fund, and it is hoped that this will be possible in the near future.

NORTHLAND NAVIGATION LIMITED—SIGNING OF AGREEMENT WITH S.I.U.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, some seven or eight days ago I brought to the attention of the Minister of Labour a complaint from local 400 of the brotherhood of Canadian transport and general workers in Vancouver concerning the possibility of a certain shipping company signing an agreement with the S.I.U. which the union considered most unfair to them. The minister promised to make inquiries into the matter. Has he any information to give the house with regard to this question?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Perhaps a misunderstanding arose between myself and the hon. member. I thought his question had not been allowed. I shall be glad to have an answer as soon as possible.

PENSIONS

CANADA PLAN—PRESENTATION OF NEW RESOLUTION AND WHITE PAPER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Now that all the provinces have been heard from with respect to the latest version of the Canada pension plan, can the Prime Minister say when a new

resolution will be placed on the order paper regarding the plan itself or, in the meantime, when a white paper regarding the revised version of the plan will be presented to the house?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the resolution with regard to the constitutional amendment, as I have already said, will be placed on the order paper tomorrow. We will get the white paper before hon. members just as quickly as we possibly can.

FLOODS

SOUTHERN ALBERTA—STEPS TO ALLEVIATE SITUATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lawrence E. Kindt (Macleod): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Will he inform the house and the country what the government intends to do concerning the flood disaster areas in southern Alberta, namely Waterton lakes, Glenwood, Stand Off and Cardston?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will have to look into this matter.

CANADIAN FLAG

OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DESIGN

The house resumed, from Monday, June 15, consideration of the motion of Mr. Pearson, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Diefenbaker:

That the government be authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to establish officially as the flag of Canada, a flag embodying the emblem proclaimed by His Majesty King George V on November 21, 1921—three maple leaves conjoined on one stem—in the colours red and white then designated for Canada, the red leaves occupying a field of white between vertical sections of blue on the edges of the flag.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, this is a momentous and historic debate, and I trust that I and others who take part will approach it with the open-mindedness and the sense of responsibility which the importance of the question deserves.

I believe that as Canada approaches its one hundredth birthday it is important that we give due consideration to the symbols of Canada's nationhood. The New Democratic party at its founding convention, held here in Ottawa in 1961, called upon the Canadian people to recognize that the time had come