

Inquiries of the Ministry

the Attorney General of Ontario has indicated that any review of the conviction and trial of Steven Truscott is, in his opinion, the responsibility of this the federal government, and can the minister undertake to expedite his study of the facts revealed in the trial of Steven Truscott, which have greatly disturbed a number of members of the house?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the remarks of the Attorney General only through a radio report. However, I can assure the hon. member for Greenwood that this matter is under active study at this moment and that I hope to be able to make a statement very shortly.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON
DEBATING PROCEDURE**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I come back to a subject which I have raised on previous occasions. Quite a number of men are awaiting execution in various parts of Canada, and naturally the subject of the abolition of capital punishment is of very great importance not only to them but to all Canadians. Will the Prime Minister say now when it is expected to bring on this debate, because I think there should be as little delay as possible?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I entirely agree that there should be as little delay as possible. I hope we will be able to get on with the consideration of this vitally important matter immediately after we complete the business before us; or, if not, then within the next day or two. There may be one or two small measures which have to be dealt with very quickly because of certain time limitations, but it is our intention to proceed with the matter mentioned by my right hon. friend immediately after them, and, of course, after the supply debate has been dealt with.

[Translation]

WINTER WORKS**RIVIÈRE-AU-TONNERRE—PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gustave Blouin (Saguenay): Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Labour?

[Mr. Brewin.]

I would ask the Minister of Labour whether he has received a telegram from the United Steelworkers of America, local 6797, Sept-Îles, asking him to make representations to the officials of the unemployment insurance commission, so that the workers engaged in the winter works of the municipality of Rivière-au-Tonnerre may get their unemployment insurance benefits without delay?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think the hon. member can put such a question under the circumstances.

Mr. Blouin: Mr. Speaker, this is very important and very urgent.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member does not admit the correctness of the ruling of the Chair, he can always report the matter for further debate upon adjournment of the house.

Mr. Blouin: Ten o'clock tonight.

EXTENSION OF OPERATIVE PERIOD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic): Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration in his capacity as future minister of manpower?

Following the telegrams sent to the minister by various municipalities throughout the country with respect to winter works this year, and since those works have been greatly delayed due to the weather, does the minister intend to announce shortly in the house his decision to extend the period for winter works?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I do not remember having stated that we would extend the period for winter works. We received a few telegrams, but the extension of this period is not being considered this year.

[English]

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY**MEETING WITH WESTERN MAYORS
RESPECTING REDUCTION IN SERVICE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. E. Pascoe (Moose Jaw-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Some time ago in this house the Prime Minister agreed to a cabinet meeting with specific representatives from Calgary to Winnipeg regarding adequate passenger rail service on the Canadian Pacific. My question