

MANPOWER**REPORTED CLOSING OF IMMIGRANT TRAINING CENTRES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration on Friday last in connection with the closing of training centres for immigrants. The minister said he would take it as notice and answer the question on Monday. Can I repeat the question now?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I have inquired about the closing of that school leased by the Toronto school board to the provincial government. The school board has decided to take back for its own use the property leased to the provincial government. We can surely not interfere in that type of transaction.

[English]

LABOUR RELATIONS**MONTREAL—STEPS TO DEAL WITH STRIKE OF DOCK WORKERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Would he tell the house whether his department has taken steps to deal with the wildcat labour dispute of the Montreal docks?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I cannot accept the premise or the statement that there is a wildcat dispute. The problems with respect to the Montreal docks arise because the Picard committee report, as the result of an act of this parliament, modifies collective agreements that were signed between the parties some months ago. These collective agreements provide for arbitration. The commissioner's report of 190-odd pages must be blended with the agreements which have been entered into between the parties.

Both sides in the dispute as well as the Montreal port council approached me over the week end and have made certain representations. The most effective way for me to answer the hon. member's question, Mr. Speaker, would be to read the telegram which was sent in reply to the port council.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Nicholson: The telegram is addressed to Mr. William Baatz, who is the president of the Montreal port council, and reads:

Referring your telegram tenth the collective agreements governing longshoring activities in the St. Lawrence ports provide for arbitration of grievances stop The fact that the agreements have been amended as a result of the Picard report does not affect said arbitration provisions. In view of this and of the urgency of the situation I have sent the following telegram to the Shipping Federation of Canada and the International Longshoremen's Association.

"I am proposing herein to the Shipping Federation of Canada and the International Longshoremen's Association that they agree to the appointment of an arbitrator to be chosen by me to make final and binding decisions with effect until December thirty-first 1967 on the issues which have affected shipping operations at the Port of Montreal and other ports on the St. Lawrence river stop With the end of the active shipping season near and the year-end holiday season fast approaching, it is imperative that full waterfront operations resume at the earliest time stop I would appreciate your immediate advice so that arbitration can proceed."

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister tell the appropriate persons in Montreal and the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Grégoire) that we in the maritimes will take this business and be glad to get it.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**MEDICARE—POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF INTRODUCTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Since any provincial governments planning to enter the medicare field next July will need to do a great deal of work, is the federal government giving consideration to deferring the date this program is to be instituted?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that would require legislation, and it is not our intention to bring additional legislation before the house.

VETERANS AFFAIRS**MAINTENANCE OF PREFERENCE IN DEFENCE ESTABLISHMENT APPOINTMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. W. Groos (Victoria (B.C.)): My question is for the Minister of National Defence. I regret that I have been unable to give him notice. Has there been any change in government policy with respect to the veterans preference in the taking on and laying