

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker, will the minister check his mail to see whether in the last few weeks an investigation was requested in respect of violation of a contract, which has been supported at the federal level by various Members of Parliament and since no response has been received to the request?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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**ELECTION EXPENSES****GOVERNMENT POSITION ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. Will the government be indicating to the House at an early date its position with respect to the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Committee on Election Expenses which was tabled on June 4?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker. That is not our intention.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation along those lines so that it might be in effect before the next election, that is if the next election is not until 1972?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, the matter is under discussion in cabinet.

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**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****DISCUSSION OF COST OF PAVING ALASKA HIGHWAY AT WASHINGTON MEETING**

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that there were frank and fruitful discussions at Washington, and having in mind that the United States Congress has passed a law authorizing the United States government to negotiate with the Canadian government concerning the cost of paving the Alaska Highway, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether any discussions were held in Washington about this matter and whether the United States government has indicated the extent to which it is prepared to defray the cost of paving the Alaska Highway?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker. The discussions in Washington were limited to two matters. The first was the conference we had on questions of the environment and pollution. Of course the paving of the Alaska Highway we hope would have nothing to do with that. The other matter was the west coast situation which I described to the House.

[Mr. Lang.]

**GRAIN****EFFECT OF WALKOUT OF WORKERS AT THUNDER BAY ON AVAILABILITY**

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. As a result of the walkout over the weekend which affected the unloading of grain at the Lakehead, what is the present situation in respect of the availability of grain and what is the possibility of resolving the dispute so there will not be a tie-up?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I understand the dispute at Thunder Bay did cause some delay in unloadings just prior to the weekend, but the men are now back at work.

**Mr. Korchinski:** Is there no possibility they will walk out again prior to the completion of any contract?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I am in close contact with my colleague the Minister of Labour in respect of this whole matter, and perhaps this question might be better directed to him.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

• (12:20 p.m.)

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS****JUDGES ACT AND FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT****AMENDMENTS RESPECTING JUDGES' SALARIES AND ANNUITIES, AUDITOR GENERAL'S SALARY**

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (for the Minister of Justice)** moved that Bill C-243, to amend the Judges Act and the Financial Administration Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

**Mr. Albert Bécharde (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to bring into effect measures that will encourage the continuing improvement of the judicial services provided across Canada by the federally appointed judiciary. The provisions of Bill C-243 will bring about salary and resulting pension increases and in addition will give judges more acceptable options with respect to retirement age and the judicial workload that they will have to carry between the ages of 70 and 75.

The salary provisions of Bill C-243 will bring about the first review and increase of the remuneration provided to federally appointed judges since 1967. The salary increases will be made in two stages, the first increase having an effective date of January 1, 1971, and the second increase becoming applicable on January 1, 1972.

In every case the total salaries that would be payable to federally appointed judges are within or below the