

UNITED NATIONS

ELECTION OF MEMBER NATIONS TO
SECURITY COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Peel): May I ask the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs when the next election of member nations to the security council of the united nations will be held, and what member nations are due to retire from the security council prior to such election?

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): The next election to the security council of the united nations is due to be held at the general assembly of the united nations which is called for September 3, 1946. No member is to retire before that date. But Egypt, Mexico and the Netherlands were elected to the security council for a one-year term ending in January, 1947, and they are due to be replaced by those who will be designated at the election to be held at the September meeting of the general assembly of the united nations.

THE BUDGET

INQUIRY AS TO EXTENSION OF MARRIED STATUS
FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Peel): May I ask the Minister of Finance whether in his preparation of the forthcoming budget he will give favourable consideration to permitting unmarried persons, widows, widowers, and separated married persons to claim married status in their future income tax returns where such persons maintain a self-contained domestic establishment?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. GRAYDON: I hope the government is not closing the door to suggestions affecting the welfare of the people—

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, while I received notice of the question I did not really expect my hon. friend to ask it, because it is an attempt to elicit advance information about the budget.

Mr. GRAYDON: I was not seeking advance information. I was asking the minister to give consideration to my suggestion.

Mr. McCANN: Favourable consideration.

Mr. GRAYDON: I would not expect the Minister of Finance to divulge in advance anything about the budget.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

COMMISSIONER TO INQUIRE INTO STEEL INDUSTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): May I direct a question to the Minister of Labour arising out of inquiries I am receiving from the steelworkers' union at Sydney, Nova Scotia. Has the Department of Labour been requested by the national steelworkers' union and the minister of labour in the Nova Scotia government to set up a commission to inquire into the wage rates paid in the steel industry? If so, can the minister name the personnel of the commission? If not, is the government considering the appointment of such a commission?

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the answer is simple. Most people know, particularly my hon. friend, that we are having our troubles one way or another in many parts of Canada. I have received a wire from the minister of labour for Nova Scotia suggesting that a commissioner be appointed in connection with the dispute that exists in the steel industry. I have no knowledge of having received any request from the steelworkers' union, but it is my intention to appoint a commissioner in the near future. When that is done I shall be glad to acquaint the house.

SEAMEN'S STRIKE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I might just as well mention another big strike in the country, the seamen's strike, because I shall probably be asked a question about it. The parties are closer together to-day than they ever were before. I think that is a fair thing to say. May I add that we are getting all the old tricks of the trade in this dispute. We have the usual gang of overnight revolutionaries, professing to give leadership to the rank and file of the seamen's organization. Only last week the same old communist trick was played: I was billed to address a meeting in Welland, my constituency, along with Mr. Pat Sullivan, a Mr. McLean, and C. S. Jackson of the electrical workers' union, but I had not been consulted. At least somebody did send a wire to me but my office wired back that I could not be there. Those who know the intimate workings of the labour movement appreciate this kind of dodge.

As I have said before, I am prepared as Minister of Labour to support any just cause. I always endeavour to be fair and decent and