

Inquiries of the Ministry

there may not be any withholding of the regular flow of mortgage money on the part of private lenders.

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, there is no intention of raising the interest rate. Mind you, a certain category of loans do go up and down, as the hon. member knows; but on the ordinary insured loans under the National Housing Act and those under the small house loan plan there will be no raising of these interest rates.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**STATEMENT ON REQUEST FOR SEASONAL BENEFIT PAYMENT FIGURES**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, on June 28 and again on July 3 the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate asked a question regarding the number of persons receiving seasonal benefits at the time seasonal benefits expired, that is, the end of June. The figures which are now available relate to active claims on June 28 and are as follows:

Atlantic region	24,383
Quebec region	44,426
Ontario region	36,970
Prairie region	12,437
Pacific region	13,662
Total, all Canada	131,878

LABOUR CONDITIONS**UNEMPLOYMENT—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON CONCLUSIONS OF CURRENT CONFERENCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I wonder if the Minister of Labour would care to give the house a report on any conclusions that were reached at the conference held in Ottawa on winter unemployment and whether, as a result of that conference, steps will be taken shortly requiring legislation to be placed before parliament.

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, that report has not yet been presented in final form. The resolutions were submitted in first draft form to the chairmen of the various committees who will prepare them in final form. They will be submitted to me when completed, and I in turn will bring them to the attention of the government for a decision to be made on what action should be taken on these recommendations.

Mr. Argue: A supplementary question. I wonder if the minister will say whether any conclusion has been reached regarding the

[Mr. Regier.]

provision of financial incentives for the construction industry during the winter months.

Mr. Starr: No decisions have as yet been made with regard to what has transpired during the last two days, and what I said in answer to the previous question applies.

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): May I ask the Minister of Labour whether as a result of yesterday's conference he feels disposed to recommend to his colleagues the desirability of the dominion-provincial conference being convened at an early date?

Mr. Starr: I will present to the government for consideration the ideas and recommendations that were made in the last two days.

YUKON ACT**AMENDMENTS RESPECTING BORROWING AND LOANING OF MONEY, APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS, ETC.**

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-35, to amend the Yukon Act.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in moving second reading of a bill to amend the Yukon Act I should like to refer the house to the remarks I made a week ago today in dealing with this matter, on which occasion I outlined the five amendments in the bill, four dealing with administrative matters and one with territorial boundaries. There is not a great deal I can add at this stage to what I said a week ago today, so I shall confine my remarks more or less to the content of the amendments.

The first amendment deals with section 19 in which we broaden the purposes for which the governor in council may borrow and lend money in the territory. Under the existing act the right of borrowing money is limited to borrowing for territorial expenditures and lending money to municipalities. The new amendments make it possible to lend money for territorial purposes, municipal purposes or local purposes. The words "local purposes" in this amendment refer to school boards, hospital boards and similar organizations in the territory. At the present time there are no school districts in the Yukon, but it is hoped that as the districts and communities of this new territory accept the responsibility of self-government, school boards will be formed. This amendment, therefore makes it possible for the commissioner on behalf of the territory to borrow money which may be loaned to a school district. The bill contains two new clauses, (b) and (c) which read as follows:

(b) for the lending of money by the commissioner to municipalities and school districts, in the territory, and—