

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: May I say about questions of that kind that when hon. members choose to repeat statements which they take from the press as worthy of consideration in the house, they take the responsibility themselves for those statements.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Speaker, in view of your remarks I think I should explain that I did not take this information from the press. The question was brought to my notice by the people involved, and I took it to the Minister of Transport as I thought he was the appropriate minister.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, LONDON—CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. J. McIlraith (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. The question is based on a press release by the Prime Minister concerning Marlborough House in London being made available to accommodate the staff of the commonwealth economic committee, and as a permanent centre for economic consultations within the commonwealth. My question is this. Is the Canadian government making any contribution to the cost of reconstruction and maintenance of Marlborough House?

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

NEWFOUNDLAND—NOVA SCOTIA—GOVERNMENT ACTION FOLLOWING LAY-OFFS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys. In view of today's news report appearing in the *Globe and Mail* that at least 550 men will be out of work on March 31 on Bell island, Newfoundland, when the Dominion Wabana ore division of Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation cuts production, and in view of the same difficulties in Nova Scotia in respect of the same parent company, has the government as yet come to any decision in these matters?

Hon. Paul Comtois (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the hon. member for having given me notice of his question. I have seen the same report in the *Gazette*, but my department or the dominion coal board has not received any confirmation of it. As to the last part of the question, the answer is no.

[Mr. Hees.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INQUIRY AS TO EXTENSION OF BENEFITS TO EX-PRISON INMATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Labour, of which I sent notice this morning.

Has the minister's attention been drawn to the January newsletter of the John Howard society of British Columbia in which it congratulates the unemployment insurance commission for recommending the required amendment to the Unemployment Insurance Act to make prison inmates eligible for benefits upon their release, and indicating that such an amendment will be introduced at the present session? Can the minister make any comment on this statement in the John Howard society newsletter of British Columbia?

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. member for giving me notice of his intention to ask this question and for drawing my attention to this newsletter. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that it would be improper for me at this time to make any comments or to indicate in any way the amendments which are expected to be brought in to the Unemployment Insurance Act. However, I wish to assure the hon. member that this particular aspect of unemployment insurance, or the possibility of such an amendment, is being given very serious consideration.

IMMIGRATION

MR. AND MRS. RAOUL ARTHUR ROLLING—STAYING OF DEPORTATION ORDER

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Will the hon. lady give an assurance that no deportation proceedings will take place in the Rolling case until there has been an opportunity to review the matter in the house when it is no longer sub judice?

Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member knows the matter is before the courts. I do not think I should make any comment on it.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Speaker, I am rising on a point of order. Similar questions were asked of me by the present Prime Minister and by the Minister of Justice in the Hanna case when I occupied the post the hon. lady