

the royal commission of inquiry into working conditions in the Post Office Department;

(2) That this committee, in a spirit of true co-operation, endeavour to find the ways and means to implement as soon as possible all recommendations in the report which they jointly feel are acceptable and liable of implementation;

(3) That an across-the-board increase of twenty five cents per hour be paid, effective October 1, 1966, to all employees in the following classes, letter carriers
supervisory letter carriers
postal clerks 1 and 2
mail despatchers
mail handlers and
postal chauffeurs,

and that the resulting rates of pay remain in effect until July 31, 1967;

(4) That, as soon as possible after the collective bargaining legislation is passed, the parties meet to determine within the framework of the legislation, the date on which formal collective bargaining under the legislation will commence for the negotiation of the first collective agreement;

(5) That it be understood that the settlement covering the ten-month period be made without prejudice to the government's position with respect to the length of future agreements under the collective bargaining legislation;

(6) That this be considered as a written undertaking by the unions' representatives that no strike will take place and that an instruction to this effect will be issued immediately to the unions' members and assurances given of continuation of normal postal services without interruption during the period for which this settlement applies;

(7) That it be understood that the unions reserve their position with respect to the rates of pay of maintenance helpers, maintenance craftsmen 1, 2 and 3, postal helpers and part-time postal clerks;

(8) That the terms of settlement be presented in written form by the mediator and be signed by each member of the respective negotiating committees.

(Proper signatures attached)

Once again I would like to say that I believe we are all grateful to Judge Montpetit.

Mr. Olson: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the minister read some portions of the document very quickly I should like to ascertain from him whether the workers in the postal service, other than those who belong to the unions which he mentioned, will also get the 25 cents an hour increase?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, of course this agreement applies to group D which is presently under consideration. The position of the other employees of the Post Office Department who are not in group D will be considered separately, as they are not covered by this settlement.

I should also like to point out to the house that we have not yet reached a settlement with respect to the other employees in group D who are represented by the Public Service

Inquiries of the Ministry

Alliance. Judge Montpetit has indicated that his mediation services will be available for further negotiations with this group, which numbers some 28,000 workers.

GRAIN

WHEAT—REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN INITIAL PAYMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. However, before doing so I would like to congratulate him for his appointment as minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. I should like to ask the minister whether he would not consider having a discussion with the wheat board to ask them whether they would increase the initial payment on wheat. The increase in the cost of farm machinery and in the cost of living has soared so high that an increase in the initial payment on wheat is of great necessity to the farmers?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. member for his kind words of commendation and I hope he included his best wishes.

When I was in Winnipeg last Monday I spent a day with the wheat board discussing the matter mentioned by the hon. member, as well as a considerable number of related problems. I asked the wheat board to present to me a report on the feasibility of increasing the initial payments in respect of the current crop year, and I will have something more to say on that in a short time.

MOVEMENT OF TOUGH GRAIN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. Horner (Acadia): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister now in a position to say whether or not special quotas will be granted for the movement of tough grain to the Lakehead and to the Vancouver drying ports so that the grain can be dried?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, a considerable amount of attention has been given to this matter of tough grain. I am told that the problem is manageable, but I will take the question as notice and provide more specific information at a later date. But as I say, I am told it is in hand at the present time.