

2. How many project applications were (a) submitted (b) rejected (c) accepted?
3. What are the names of the projects that were (a) accepted (b) rejected?
4. What reasons were given by the government for rejecting or accepting the projects?
5. What amount was granted by the government for each such project?
6. How many jobs were created by each such project?

Return tabled.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might briefly, on a question of privilege, make reference to three questions standing in my name on the order paper. I am sorry I do not have the numbers immediately at hand. These questions were responded to in a standing committee last night. It is surprising to me that you can get answers in a standing committee to questions placed on the order paper, but cannot get them responded to in the normal way in the House. I wonder if the hon. parliamentary secretary would take note of that. Perhaps other members in the chamber who want answers to their questions should raise them in committee, as opposed to waiting for the parliamentary secretary to respond.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I might say that I am equally surprised.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[English]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all motions stand.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ST. LAWRENCE PORTS OPERATIONS ACT, 1975

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR RESUMPTION OF LONGSHORING AND RELATED OPERATIONS AT PORTS IN QUEBEC

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): moved for leave to introduce Bill C-59, to provide for the resumption and continuation of longshoring, checking, cargo repairing and related operations at certain ports in the province of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House that the hon. member shall have leave to introduce the bill.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I might say that I am a bit surprised that this has not been done in the usual way, namely, by way of a request earlier in the day's proceed-

Labour Dispute

ings. May I indicate that despite the fact that by the rules this should not take place until tomorrow, we are prepared that first reading be given now. We are also willing at this moment to consent to a second reading debate following that motion today. We suggest that the government not ask for any further concessions at this point.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, may I just follow up on what was said on the point of order of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). In so far as we are concerned, with regard to future concessions we will consider the exigencies of the situation as they develop and then consider any suggestions that may be made by the minister.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I should like to thank the House leaders of the other parties for the co-operation which I requested. Certainly, we on this side of the House would be prepared to see the bill proceed to second reading debate immediately.

Mr. Speaker: Shall it be so ordered, that second reading be taken forthwith?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): moved that Bill C-59, to provide for the resumption and continuation of longshoring, checking, cargo repairing and related operations at certain ports in the province of Quebec, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on another technical point of order. Since we have passed the motion that the bill be given first reading and be printed, I should like to know if that has been done and can copies be distributed to all hon. members?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The bill is now being distributed as it has been printed. It was evident that the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro) proposed to make some initial comments on the bill, and I thought I should recognize him while the bill was being distributed.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would join the government House leader in thanking the House leaders of the other parties and hon. members for their co-operation.

Let me say at the outset that it gives me no pleasure whatever to introduce this emergency, back to work legislation respecting the St. Lawrence River ports' longshoring operations. The government is committed to the free collective bargaining system and this dispute has not shaken our faith in collective bargaining as the most satisfactory method for determining wages and conditions. Unfortunately, bargaining in this dispute discontinued more than three weeks ago, and despite the best efforts of an experienced and respected mediator we were unable to get the parties back to the bargaining table.

Confronted with this situation, the government could have allowed the dispute to take its own course in the hope that eventually the loss of wages and the loss of