

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Speaker: Order. I wonder if the question is very urgent.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order please. Perhaps the hon. member might indicate the urgency of the question by rephrasing it.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Well, Mr. Speaker, I venture to suggest, and I am sure the Minister of Labour will agree, it has very considerable urgency in that the present collective bargaining agreements have run out and there is grave danger of problems arising in the C.B.C.

Mr. Nicholson: On the question of urgency—

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Miss LaMarsh: Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend seems not very clear in what he is talking about, but if he is talking about matters which have arisen in connection with the C.B.C. in Quebec province, of course I am aware of these. That is the only question he asked me. He did not even mention where the labour trouble might be, and of course I could not know every place where there might be labour trouble.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. lady if she would report.

POWER

COLUMBIA RIVER—REQUEST FOR REPORT OF ENGINEERING BOARD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask of the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys a question which comes strictly within the rules. I regret I have not been able to send him notice because I have been sitting here in anticipation since the sitting commenced. Will the minister inform the house when he intends to table the 1965 report of the permanent engineering board on the Columbia?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Because the question is asked with so much charm, Mr. Speaker, I shall do it tomorrow.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In view of the great interest taken by Hon. Eric Kierans and the Quebec government in American decisions, does the minister or the government plan to report to the Quebec government, as soon as possible, on the results of recent meetings between Canadian and U.S. authorities and to communicate their confidence and their optimism to that provincial government?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I presume that the hon. members have had the opportunity to look over the report which I read to the House this afternoon, but I will add, if I may, that I believe the suggestion to be worthy, and I will look into the situation.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INDIA—INQUIRY AS TO ITEMS COMPRISING ADDITIONAL AID

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Could he supply the house with the information he is alleged to have given Secretary Rusk, namely the amount by which Canadian agricultural aid to India will be increased?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as the Prime Minister indicated on Friday last, it is the intention of the Canadian government to provide assistance in addition to the total of \$25 million that has been made available in accordance with the announcement of this February. The amount of additional aid will be substantial, and over and above this figure of \$25 million.

There is soon to be a meeting perhaps in Washington when Canada and the United States hope that other countries, both wheat producing and non-wheat producing, will find it possible to join with us in giving the assistance which India so badly needs at this very critical period. We feel that the course we have taken is one that is calculated to encourage other countries to follow our example.