

Inquiries of the Ministry

from 30 to 20 days per training year, normally September 1 to August 31. As this change is only effective from April 1, 1964, there is no question of taking away pay for work which has already been performed. Sea cadet officers will be paid for the total number of days pay and allowances, up to a maximum of 30 days, earned from September 1, 1963 to March 31, 1964. However, those who have already earned 20 or more days pay and allowances prior to April 1, 1964 will not be eligible for further pay for divisional drills for the balance of the training year.

I can also inform the hon. member that necessary instructions are being issued to all sea cadet corps in order to ensure that there is no misunderstanding as to the effect of the foregoing change.

BLANDFORD, N.S.—CONSTRUCTION OF
NAVAL RADIO STATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Associate Minister of National Defence. On March 11 the associate minister informed the house that his department would investigate the possibility of having the proposed Blandford radio station facilities located at Beaverbank. In view of the unemployment in this area and the uncertainty caused by the fact that tenders have already been called for the construction of a receiver building at Blandford, will the minister inform the house whether a final decision has been reached regarding the placing of these facilities in this particular area?

Hon. Lucien Cardin (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the department has looked into the possibility of using the facilities that we have in Beaverbank. It was found that from a technical point of view the radio station contemplated for Blandford could not be placed at Beaverbank. However, the department is still looking into the possibility of using the facilities at Beaverbank for other purposes.

Mr. Crouse: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does this mean that the development will proceed at Blandford, as originally planned, for the radio receiving station?

Mr. Cardin: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

INQUIRY AS TO SETTING UP OF COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of National Defence whether he intends to place before the house very shortly the resolution in his name for the setting up of the special parliamentary committee on defence, in the

[Mr. Cardin.]

light of the complexity and importance of the tasks assigned to it. How soon, in other words?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, it would be the hope of the government that we could bring forward the resolution to set up the committee very soon, and perhaps almost simultaneously with that introduce the legislation amending the National Defence Act so that this bill could be referred to the committee for study.

INQUIRY AS TO RECOVERY OF STOLEN ARMS AND
AMMUNITION

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Justice a question, of which I have given him notice in order to comply with requirements. Can the minister tell the house whether the arms and munitions stolen from armouries have been recovered?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I must say that, at the time the last were seized, practically all arms stolen from the Shawinigan armouries had been recovered. Other developments will soon be announced, but all reports published in the newspapers with regard to the recovery of the arms stolen from the Shawinigan armouries are true.

[Text]

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has anybody been arrested in this regard and charged with an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada? I wish to pose this question to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Favreau: Yes. At the instance of the attorney general of Quebec, who is responsible for the administration of justice in his province, three persons have already been arrested and charged.

FINANCE

SUGGESTED ELIMINATION OF SALES TAX ON
BUILDING MATERIAL

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that the level of unemployment is quite alarming in eastern Canada and especially in Quebec, does the government intend to abolish the 8 per cent tax on building material as soon as possible, in order to boost the Canadian economy?