

committee was formed. We are paying for the chairman of the committee. We are providing staff support to the committee, the members of which are the leaders of the shipbuilding industry.

Good will and good intentions do not bring about an instant solution. The committee soon realized the extreme complexity of the situation. They are now asking me to provide consultant services, \$100,000 worth. I have agreed to that because of the importance of the matter. This is now before Treasury Board. They have also asked that the vice-chairman be paid. I am not as sympathetic here as I was on the matter of consultant services.

[Translation]

VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS

MONTREAL—ADEQUACY OF FEDERAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister in connection with a statement made yesterday by the president of the Montreal Executive Council to the effect that the protective measures offered by the federal authorities in the Montreal region are insufficient at the present time. Could the right hon. Prime Minister say if it is true that the protection offered by the federal government is inadequate in Montreal in emergencies such as those that happened recently, and what corrective measures the government intends to take?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would need to see the exact content of the statement made by the Executive Council Chairman of Montreal. As far as we are concerned, Mr. Speaker, we find, on the contrary, that the support given by the Federal Government in such circumstances is very much to the point, and during the events that occurred in recent weeks, when the Royal Mounted Police and even some Canadian Army units have entered into action to support the civilian authorities as soon as the request had been made, prove that point.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question addressed to the Minister of National Defence.

Did the Executive Council of Montreal inform the minister or request his assistance when the troubles developed in Montreal?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): A request was made for assistance,

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker, but it did not come from the Executive Council Chairman, but from the Attorney General of the Province as is required by law.

[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

CPR SHOPS, MONTREAL—LAY-OFFS OF SKILLED EMPLOYEES

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Has his attention been brought to the large scale lay-offs of skilled employees in the CPR shops in Montreal? If so, will the minister indicate whether something can be done to alleviate the difficulties?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): The answer to the first part is no, Mr. Speaker, but I will be glad to follow up on the request.

FISHERIES

SEALS—AGREEMENT WITH OTHER COUNTRIES RESPECTING KILLING

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the recent announcement by the minister which brought to a halt for the coming season the killing of harp seals within Canadian territorial waters, I ask the minister whether, so the purpose will not be negated, any action has been taken or any decision reached with other countries with respect to an agreement regarding offshore Canadian waters so that his policy will not be killed by other countries?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, our recent announcement to ban the killing of very young baby white coat seals did not ban the killing of older seals in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In respect to international relations, we have had several meetings with the other country principally involved, Norway, and we are still endeavouring to establish a quota in international waters in the north Atlantic. In the meantime, pending the establishment of such a quota the hunt will continue as it has always done in those international waters.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): In view of the impact this measure will have on the inshore fishermen on the south coast of Newfoundland as well as fishermen of the Magdalen Islands, Prince Edward Island and the Gaspé Peninsula, has the minister reached a decision on what action will be taken to ease