

Inquiries of the Ministry

appointment of the royal commission on the revision of the terms of union with Newfoundland?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the position of the government was set out in a letter to the premier of Newfoundland dated September 5, 1956. This letter was published at the time and I will be glad to make copies of it available to the hon. member. The position of the government has not changed since then, and we expect to announce the appointment of the commission quite soon now.

LIVESTOCK**HOGS—MAINTENANCE OF PRESENT SUPPORT PRICE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Bryson (Humboldt-Melfort): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. When the embargo against imports of United States pork products is lifted, will the minister give assurance that the hog producers will not suffer a loss by a drop in hog prices and that at least the present support price of \$23 f.o.b. Toronto will be maintained?

Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, when the time arrives that there is a possibility of the embargo being raised we will give consideration to all these questions under the circumstances then existing.

LABOUR CONDITIONS**SARNIA—STATUS OF PROPOSED STRIKE AT POLYMER CORPORATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. W. Murphy (Lambton West): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Can he bring the house up to date on the present status of the proposed strike at the Polymer Corporation at Sarnia? I ask him this question because if there is a strike at Polymer it will probably affect another two or three thousand employees in the same city.

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I have no information on the prospects of a strike at Polymer. I hope there will be as few strikes as possible at this period because the manpower of Canada is, I think, taxed almost to its utmost capacity.

Mr. Murphy (Lambton West): In view of the seriousness of the situation, I wonder whether the Prime Minister would make inquiries. A strike vote was called last Sunday and it may be that a conciliator has been appointed, but I think the house would be interested in knowing what is the situation.

[Mr. Stick.]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**REFERENCE TO BATTLE OF BRITAIN BY CHIEF OF GERMAN LUFTWAFFE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Defence as one former simple front line soldier to another. Has the minister's attention been drawn to press reports of comments on the battle of Britain made to the press by Lieutenant General Joseph Kammhuber, chief of staff of the new German luftwaffe, now a guest of the minister's department? If so, does the minister consider these remarks a correct interpretation of history or appropriate at this time?

Hon. R. O. Campney (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for giving me notice of his question. The answer to the first part is that I have seen the newspaper reports in question. Lieutenant General Kammhuber came to Canada as chief of the new German air force in connection with the purchase of planes and the training of West German pilots. I must remind the house that he came as from one NATO country to another. While he was here he submitted himself to a press conference. Whether the questions put to him and the answers he made at that press conference were appropriate under all the circumstances I think is a matter of opinion.

As to the question whether his observations constitute a correct interpretation of history, I must say I make no claim to infallibility in interpreting history but as for myself I have always regarded the best interpretation of the battle of Britain as being the one contained in Sir Winston Churchill's words, when he said that never in the history of mankind have so many owed so much to the efforts of so few.

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION**INDIAN AFFAIRS—PETITION OF ALBERTA INDIAN ASSOCIATION TO THE QUEEN**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Would the minister read to the house or table the reply which he indicated on Friday last he was making to the Indian Association of Alberta in reply to their petition?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as soon as that reply has been dispatched and has had a reasonable chance of reaching Calgary,