

Inquiries of the Ministry

Prime Minister and ask whether he is prepared to make any report with reference to his negotiations with the premiers of the provinces regarding the Canada pension plan; and can he tell the house whether it is the government's intention to introduce a new plan or to proceed with the present plan and make certain amendments in committee of the whole?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in welcoming my hon. friend back from the wars I would tell him I made a statement to the house yesterday in which I said I would be making a report on this matter not later than Monday. It will be made on Monday, and at that time I hope to deal with some of the points he has specifically raised this morning.

[Later:]

[Translation]

Mr. Georges Valade (St. Mary): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he tell the house whether the Minister of National Health and Welfare is taking part in the discussions now going on between the Quebec and Ottawa authorities with regard to the Canada pension plan?

[Text]

Mr. Pearson: Of course, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question. Will the Minister of National Health and Welfare present the new pension plan or will the Prime Minister introduce the bill next week?

[Text]

Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers): May I ask a supplementary question. I wonder if the Prime Minister could tell us if these negotiations are being held at the present time and where the representatives of the various governments are meeting. Are the meetings taking place in Quebec city or in Ottawa?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows, because I made the announcement in the house, that these negotiations have been going on, not necessarily at meetings in Ottawa, by discussions between officials and by correspondence between myself and the premiers of the provinces. I shall be glad to explain on Monday exactly how it has been handled and the happy results which I hope will have been achieved by then.

[Mr. Douglas.]

IMMIGRATION

LONDON, ONT.—REPORTED TRIAL OF
GREEK SEAMAN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. It concerns the reported trial in London, Ontario of a Greek seaman by the name of Stylianos Yiannopolous who was held without trial for three months. Could the Minister of Justice and his colleague, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, look into this very serious matter and make a report to the house at their very earliest convenience?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I will look into the matter, though I doubt very much if it is within the realm of my jurisdiction.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

REVIEW OF FORMULA TO DETERMINE
DESIGNATED AREAS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry. Last November the minister, along with his colleague the Minister of Finance, assured the house that all depressed or designated areas, together with the formulae used, would be reconsidered once they had a little experience of them. Is he now in a position to inform the house whether these formulae are to be changed?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, I do not think we have yet had sufficient experience of this program to warrant an announcement of changes at this time.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF WINTER
WORKS PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Lake St. John): Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Prime Minister?

During the recent federal-provincial conference in Quebec city, did the premier of Quebec present him with a request from all the municipalities of his province to the effect that the winter works program be extended until the end of May? Has he received an official request from Quebec in that connection?