

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

some students wishing to continue their education to be assured of a student loan before applying for college entrance this summer, does the Prime Minister not consider the proposed student loan legislation urgent enough to be proceeded with at once?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, this is very urgent and important legislation, but so is other legislation before the house. I hope this particular proposal to which my hon. friend refers will be disposed of in ample time for students to benefit from it before the beginning of the next academic year.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**FIRST VOLUME OF REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister based on his announcement yesterday that at one o'clock today the report of the royal commission on health services would be tabled. May I ask the Prime Minister whether he will be making a statement at the time he tables that report at one o'clock, after asking that the house revert to motions, or will he be tabling any kind of summary with respect to this important document?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, it is my impression, subject to checking, that at one o'clock, if the house agrees, we will be tabling volume 1 of the report. Volume 2 is merely the volume containing the supporting papers and evidence, and volume 1 is the substantive report. With it will be tabled, I believe, a summary made by the commission of the contents and recommendations of the report.

**Mr. Knowles:** May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If the report contains some specific recommendations, will the government be acting on them as soon as possible?

**Mr. Pearson:** We will have to consider the recommendations first, to see whether it is the government's policy to implement them. They have to be studied. Those which are to be implemented should, I agree, be put into effect as soon as possible.

**OTTAWA—X-RAY EXAMINATION OF POST OFFICE EMPLOYEES**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, a

couple of days ago the hon. member for Kootenay West posed to me the question whether a request had been received from employees of the Post Office Department in Ottawa for X-ray testing as the result of one of their members having to be hospitalized with a case of active tuberculosis. I should like to thank my hon. friend for this inquiry and to inform him that my department has arranged for chest X-rays of all the employees in that department, and we are looking into the possibility of extending this examination.

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** I should like to compliment the minister for taking effective action.

**WATER RESOURCES**

**SUGGESTED DEPARTMENTAL DIVISION TO DEAL WITH WATER LAWS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. In consideration of the complex problems of low water in the great lakes and the St. Lawrence seaway, and flood conditions in other parts of the country, has any thought been given to the establishment of a departmental division staffed by competent engineers to deal with these matters governed by properly constituted water laws?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, there is a very great deal of governmental machinery to deal with this very important problem that we are seeking to improve all the time. If there is any possibility of improving its co-ordination, and if hon. members from any quarter of the house or anyone else can make any suggestions for improving what is, after all, one of the greatest of all our national assets, this would be very welcome to the government.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS**

**QUEBEC—EMPLOYMENT FOR WORKERS LAID OFF FOLLOWING MERGER**

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour.

Can the minister tell the house if he contacted the government of the province of Quebec in order to settle the problem which