

parliamentary assistant to the minister could give me some indication as to whether there were negotiations going on with regard to it. Following the movement of farm labour from the west representations have been made with respect to getting female labour from that section of the country for processing the large crop of fruit and other vegetables which will be canned. Have any negotiations taken place and has consideration been given to the movement of female labour to eastern Canada for that purpose?

Mr. PAUL MARTIN (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker, consideration is being actively given to that matter.

Mr. LOCKHART: Has any progress been made?

Mr. MARTIN: I am not in a position at the moment to report whether or not progress has been made.

TRANSFER FROM INDUSTRY TO FARMING OPERATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. E. PERLEY (Qu'Appelle): I am informed that some men working in certain industries, particularly in the mining industry, who would like to go west to assist in farming operations on their own fathers' and relatives' farms, are having a little difficulty. While they are being released temporarily by the industry they are having some difficulty with national selective service. They have to appear before the boards in their districts and they are informed that when they go west they will have to appear before the boards there. Would the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Labour inform the house if there can be any rule or regulations passed which will help to facilitate this situation so that these men will not have to face the difficulties that confront them now?

Mr. PAUL MARTIN (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour): I am sure that having in mind the importance of the work every facility will be used to facilitate the movement of the workers in the circumstances mentioned by the hon. member.

WAR LABOUR BOARD—RAILWAY APPLICATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Temiscouata): May I ask the hon. and genial parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Labour when we may expect the decision of the war labour board on the submission of railway employees for adjustments of wages?

Mr. PAUL MARTIN (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour): With regard to the decision of the national war labour board concerning the case of the railway workers, as I said last week in answer to a question put to me from the other side of the house, it is a very involved case, as the hon. member will appreciate. The national war labour board is giving the matter active attention. On inquiry this morning I was advised that the board is working on the matter and will give a decision at the earliest possible moment.

INTERNMENTS

CAMILLIEN HOUE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Temiscouata): May I ask the hon. friendly and genial Minister of Justice if it can be expected that Mr. Houde will be released before Tuesday next, the last day for nominations to a seat in the Quebec legislature?

Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Minister of Justice): I must apologize to the hon. member. I did not realize that the question was being addressed to me, and I am afraid I did not follow him very closely.

Mr. POULIOT: I shall repeat the question. From the report on Mr. Houde's case it appears that it is about to be settled. I wonder if he could be released before Tuesday next, the nomination day for all those who run for seats in the Quebec legislature.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Were I to attempt to deal with that report I should have to make a very long statement about all of the details of the Houde case. All I can say at the present time is that the matter is under consideration.

DEFENCE OF CANADA REGULATIONS

UKRAINIAN LABOUR FARMER TEMPLE ASSOCIATION —QUESTION AS TO RETURN OF PROPERTY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. H. KNOWLES (Winnipeg North Centre): I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State in his capacity as custodian of enemy property. In view of the interview that took place yesterday between a number of cabinet ministers and a delegation representing the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association concerning a request for return of certain properties or proper recompense therefor, is the minister able to make a statement on the matter?