Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, following a meeting held on February 25 with the U.A.W. at Windsor, we sent two officials to Windsor, one from the Department of Industry and the other from the department of immigration, to inquire into this very serious problem.

Last week I received a very extensive report on the situation. At the time of the meeting the union suggested to us that the company intended to close down its tool and die room at Windsor. The result of the inquiry shows that that actually was the intention of the company. It is regrettable that the company did not co-operate more in this matter with the union, but I think we have to face these lay-offs and see how we can help the workers involved. We have asked our national employment service office to take the matter into immediate consideration.

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo South): A supplementary question. In view of the answer the minister has given, can he tell the house whether he has any intention of seeing that the evil effects of lay-offs as a result of the automobile agreement are mitigated by making representations to the automobile companies regarding future lay-offs, so as to ensure that consultation will take place with their employees prior to a lay-off taking place in the manner in which this one did.

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, it is our intention to do this.

IMMIGRATION

HONG KONG-SHORTAGE OF EXAMINING OFFICERS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): May I direct a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. The day before yesterday the minister announced the opening of an immigration office in Tokyo, among other changes in the immigration set-up. Can he advise the house what he proposes to do at this time with respect to the office in Hong Kong, with a view to correcting the grave shortage of examining officers at that bureau?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Does the hon. gentleman mean the shortage of personnel in Hong Kong?

was admitted by the minister's predecessors Canada have been brought back to Canada. [Mr. Gray.]

and which I personally verified some months ago.

Mr. Marchand: This is the first time I have heard of this, Mr. Speaker. I will inquire and make a report later on.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON INVESTIGATION INTO GASPÉ-MATAPÉDIA SERVICE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. Keays (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. This is the third time I have asked this question and I hope he has now had time to get a reply from the C.N.R. It concerns an inquiry which I requested into passenger service in the Bay of Chaleur.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I regret I have not yet had a reply.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM-INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISORY COMMISSION—DEATH OF MEMBER OF DELEGATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. J. W. Fane (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs having to do with the international commission in Viet Nam. I want to ask the minister whether recently a member of the Canadian delegation was killed in the performance of his duties. If he was, was he buried in Viet Nam: and with what flag was the casket draped at the burial?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice.

[Later:]

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Fane) asked me a question a few moments ago, which I took as notice. I had not fully understood whether his question had to do with an airplane accident in which one of our very able foreign service officers, Mr. Turner, was killed. Of course, that airplane in which he lost his life has not Mr. Lambert: I refer to the shortage of been found. With regard to deaths previous examining personnel in Hong Kong, which to that, the bodies of personnel serving