

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

through the park or south of the park to Revelstoke. That, I understand, Mr. Speaker, is the Rogers pass.

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****EXTENSION TO CANADIANS WORKING ON  
UNITED STATES BASES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. A. M. Fraser (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour, of which I have given him notice. In view of a recent item in the St. John's *Daily News* which indicates a possibility of the extension of unemployment insurance coverage to Canadian, including, of course, Newfoundland, workers directly employed by the United States government on the United States bases in Newfoundland, can the minister now give the house any further information on this subject?

**Hon. Milton F. Gregg (Minister of Labour):** For quite a long time members from Newfoundland have brought to my attention the importance of this matter. That also applies to the hon. member for Comox-Alberni. We have spent a long time trying to get something done about it, and I am glad to be able to report that something has been done, which is as follows: Arrangements have now been concluded with the United States government for the insuring of all Canadian civilian personnel employed in Canada by the United States armed forces commencing July 1, 1956. Under the agreement, the expression "Canadian employees" of the United States armed forces includes all residents of Canada whether or not they are Canadian citizens, provided they are not insured under any unemployment insurance law of the United States in respect of the same employment. We are already in touch with the appropriate officers of the United States armed forces and have supplied them with full information and instructions with regard to registration and payment of contributions.

I should point out, as is indicated in my statement, that this applies to all parts of Canada as well as to Newfoundland and I should like to acknowledge the good co-operation of the department of the Secretary of State for External Affairs in helping to bring this about.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE****KAMLOOPS, B.C.—FIRE-FIGHTING PERSONNEL AT  
ORDNANCE DEPOT**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence if he can tell me whether it has been [Mr. Winters.]

decided to discontinue the services of fire-fighting personnel at No. 37 ordnance ammunition depot at Kamloops? If so, can the minister give the assurance that implementation of this decision will be held up so that the whole matter can be reviewed while representations that have been made and the safety of the residents of the area concerned are further considered?

**Hon. R. O. Campney (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the hon. member for mentioning this matter to me a day or two ago. I have looked into the situation and according to the advice I have received there is a permanent staff of five civilian watchmen at No. 37 ammunition depot at Kamloops. They are all well trained in fire prevention methods as laid down by the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps regulations. In addition, of course, the navy has a fire-fighting detachment on the other side of Kamloops which is on duty in three shifts 24 hours a day and is therefore always available.

I think probably what the hon. member refers to is that recently there was a fairly large amount of ammunition supplies being transferred to the depot at Rayleigh. A number of civilians were engaged on a temporary basis to assist in this movement and to ensure safe handling. They were classified as watchmen or firefighters. When the transfer was complete they were released. An on the spot survey was made by the army establishment committee who were satisfied that the permanent staff of five civilian watchmen at No. 37 depot is adequate.

**Mr. Fulton:** I would like to ask the Minister of National Defence a supplementary question. Can the minister tell me whether the magazines of the former No. 37 depot are to be left empty and whether all the ammunition has been transferred to Rayleigh, or am I right in my understanding now that large quantities of ammunition are to remain in storage in the magazines at the former depot? It is on that basis that the information came to me and my question was asked. I understand that the residents of the area are concerned because it appears that the ammunition will be left in storage with a very skeleton, and what is regarded as a most inadequate, fire guard.

**Mr. Campney:** Well, Mr. Speaker, as I said in answering the first question asked by the hon. member, the situation has already been reviewed. As it is now, it is my understanding that some ammunition will remain in No. 37 depot. It is also my understanding that after reviewing all the circumstances the