Tuesday, July 26, 1960

The house met at 11 a.m.

VACANCIES

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that consequent upon the notification of vacancies in the representation given in this house on Monday, July 25, 1960 by the hon. member for Welland and by the hon. member for Ottawa West, and pursuant to section 10 of the House of Commons Act, I have addressed my warrants to the chief electoral officer for the issue of new writs for the election of members in the electoral districts of Niagara Falls and Peterborough.

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister and ask him when the government is going to make arrangements for representation of the constituency of Labelle, which has been without a representative in this house for upwards of six months?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State of External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it is very interesting to see the great interest being taken by the opposition in these by-elections. Perhaps they might be wise not to be so enthusiastic about them. Action will be taken in due course.

GRAIN

WHEAT BOARD REGULATIONS RESPECTING DELIVERIES TO FEED MILLS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Could the minister inform the house whether the Canadian wheat board will continue to enforce grain delivery quotas beginning in the new crop year as they apply to feed mills? In other words, will the past policy be continued by the wheat board rather than the policy contained in the report of the committee?

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I will discuss this matter with the wheat board and give the hon. member an answer with regard to to it later.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

VANCOUVER, B.C.—STATEMENT AS TO WORK PERMITS FOR U.S. PAINTERS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, on July 22 the hon. member for Vancouver East asked me a question regarding the importation of painters from the United States to do painting at the Vancouver General hospital for Rust Engineering Company. I have made an investigation and the report is as follows.

A foreman and two men were brought in from the United States to do a repairing and cleaning job on the smoke stack of the Vancouver General hospital. They were given work permits on the assurance of the national employment service in Vancouver that no local workmen were available who were qualified to do high stack repair and maintenance work.

When they had finished the Vancouver job they were sent to Port Alberni to do a similar job for MacMillan and Bloedel. This job, in addition to cleaning a 200-foot smoke stack. involved priming with mastic. The national employment service was able to establish that the latter part of the work, that is the painting, could be performed by local workers. Therefore the two United States workmen on the job have now been replaced by Canadians on a trial basis, and if satisfactory they will be retained. The men were originally brought in by Rust Engineering Company to do repair and maintenance. Painting is part of the job. I am informed that the two painters have been instructed to leave the country.

UNITED NATIONS

CONGO-REPORTED FIRING ON R.C.A.F. PLANE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Defence. Is the minister in a position to confirm or deny the Canadian Press report to the effect that a Royal Canadian Air Force plane was fired on as it flew over Buta airport in northern Congo?

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I heard this rumour last night and I immediately got in