

5. (a) Were instructions issued by the Department of Manpower and Immigration concerning hourly wage rates, daily and weekly hours of work and other employment conditions for the Caribbean workers while in Canada (b) were officials of the Department of Manpower and Immigration assigned to investigate whether the hourly wage rates, daily and weekly hours of work, authorized by the department, were observed by employers (c) how many violations of the wage and hourly conditions were discovered by department officials?

Mr. J. C. Munro (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration):

1. No. Representatives from the Department of Manpower and Immigration visited the Caribbean islands in 1967 to negotiate with the islands' governments the terms for the temporary entry of workers to Canada.

2. (a) 1077; (b) None to the knowledge of the department; (c) 1053; (d) Transportation costs based on the economy return air fare from Kingston, Jamaica, to Toronto have been paid by the employers.

3. Workers were required to work for one employer at a time. However, after harvesting the crop of one employer, a worker could be hired by another employer provided that his stay in Canada would not exceed four calendar months.

4. Before the movement started in 1967 an agreement was prepared in consultation with employers and their associations, the Caribbean islands' governments concerned and the Department of Manpower and Immigration. This agreement was signed by the worker, employer and Caribbean governments' representative.

5. (a) The Department of Manpower and Immigration prepared guide lines as to the minimum wage rates and minimum weekly earnings. Daily and weekly hours of work in this highly seasonal industry were not specified, with the exception of minimum weekly earnings. (b) Officials of the Department of Manpower and Immigration were not assigned to investigate wage rates or hours of work. However, officials of the department assisted the Caribbean liaison officers in settling any complaints by workers and the employers. (c) None were discovered by the officials of the department.

PUBLIC SERVICE PERSONNEL AND SALARIES

Question No. 654—Mr. Southam:

1. How many people were employed full time in the public service of Canada in the years 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, and to October 31, 1967?

2. How many of those employed in each of the years 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, and to October 31, 1967, were English-speaking, French-speaking or bilingual?

Questions

3. What was the total salary cost of the public service of Canada in each of the years 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, and to October 31, 1967?

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Trade and Commerce): 1. Information is not available concerning the number of full time employees under the public service of Canada. However, the number of employees excluding casuals, in the public service for the specified years, as at October 31, is: 1963, 325,730; 1964, 327,942; 1965, 331,495; 1966, 348,567; 1967, information not available.

2. This information is not available.

3. The total annual payroll, for each of the specified years, is: 1963, \$1,625 million; 1964, \$1,698 million; 1965, \$1,814 million; 1966, \$2,048 million; 1967, information not available.

PURCHASE OF NAVAL GUNS IN ITALY

Question No. 659—Mr. Harkness:

1. Has the government of Canada entered into a contract to secure naval guns from Italy?

2. If so, what number of guns are being purchased, what is the type of gun, and what is the cost?

3. What is the specific use which is to be made of these guns?

4. Was consideration given to producing these guns by the facilities which were installed in the early '50s at Sorel at the cost of the taxpayer for the purpose of producing naval guns and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): 1. Yes.

2. Five 5 inch 54 calibre automatic gun mountings, at an estimated cost of \$8 million.

3. Four of these gun mountings will be employed in the surface and bombardment roles in the new helicopter destroyers, the fifth is for training and logistic support.

4. Yes.

ADOPTION OF METRIC SYSTEM

Question No. 668—Mr. Caouette:

1. Is a government committee studying the possibility of adopting the metric system in Canada and, if so, where does the matter stand?

2. Does the government intend to introduce legislation in order to adopt this system in Canada?

3. Was Canada represented at the annual meeting of the standards organization which was held in Moscow and, if so, what was Canada's position?

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Trade and Commerce): 1. The implications of the metric system for Canada are under review by an inter-departmental committee.