Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS

EPRESENTATION OF UNIONS BEFORE BOARD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Alcide Simard (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour, but in his absence I shall put it to his parliamentary secretary.

Did the Minister of Labour provide that in case of an inter-union conflict involving an affiliate of the C.L.C. and an affiliate of the C.N.T.U., these two movements must be equally represented, namely by two representatives each.

Mr. Speaker: I do not believe that the question is in order at this time.

[English]

PUBLIC WORKS

AMHERST, N.S.—USE OF CANADIAN MATERIALS IN WHARF EXTENSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, one week ago today I asked a question of the Minister of Transport which was taken as notice by the acting minister. As reported at page 825 of Hansard for June 1 I asked whether the minister had received a telegram from local 2231 of the United Steel Workers of America at Amherst, Nova Scotia, and if steps could be taken in calling for tenders for the extension to the Pugsley terminal wharf requiring the use of domestic materials in order to provide some 15,000 to 20,000 man hours of employment in the steel where unemployment is industry, quite prevalent.

Has the minister had time during the last week to look into this matter, and can he give a reply today?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I did have some information about this matter, but I apologize to the hon. gentleman because I have not got it with me, and I would not like to trust my memory, particularly since my recollections have so recently been called into question.

Mr. Douglas: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the urgency of the matter about which I asked the minister, and in view of the fact that tenders are to be called this week, could the minister undertake to give me an answer tomorrow to the question I submitted a week ago?

Mr. Pickersgill: I will do my utmost, sir. [Mr. Schreyer.]

AIR CANADA

COMPLAINT RESPECTING TRANSPORTATION TO WESTERN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Transport. Similarly I directed a question to the acting minister in the minister's absence, but nothing came of it at all despite my compliments to the acting minister. Can the minister himself now answer my question, which had to do with increased accommodation for passengers of Air Canada to and from western Canada?

W. Pickersgill (Minister Hon. J. of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have very grave doubts whether increased accommodation could be provided without increasing the number of planes, and I do not think any planes would be available unless they were taken off some other routes. I know that the hon. gentleman, with his broad national viewpoint, would not want to suggest that, but if he can tell me where any additional planes can be had or can be brought into Canada by any air line, I would be glad to have that information.

Mr. Churchill: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The members of the house are here to find out from the minister whether he has any knowledge at all of these matters. I am not the one to provide him with knowledge as to what should be done with regard to the provision of transport, though I would be very glad to do so because things might thereby be improved.

Mr. Pickersgill: The hon. gentleman would be very welcome to.

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION OF FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN SAINT JOHN, N.B. AND DIGBY, N.S.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question which is directed to the Prime Minister, of which I have given him notice. Has the Prime Minister received a request to meet a delegation from western Nova Scotia to discuss the woefully inadequate ferry service between Digby and Saint John? If so, what has been his reply?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the association in question has not been in touch with me directly but it has