

*Inquiries of the Ministry***INDIAN AFFAIRS****PROTECTION OF HUNTING RIGHTS UNDER
MIGRATORY BIRDS CONVENTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Is he in a position to inform the house what if any progress has been made in the effort to untangle the confusion and conflict which exist between the Migratory Birds Convention Act and the hunting rights which the Indian people in Canada supposedly have under their treaties?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is now asking the minister to make a statement of policy. This is the type of statement which should be made on motions rather than at this time in our proceedings.

Mr. Simpson: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this question has been asked on several occasions, and if my memory serves me right we have been told that this matter is being considered by the government. I wonder whether any progress has been made.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I should like to assure the hon. member that a great many studies have been carried out in this respect and at the present time discussions are going on with the Indian people. We are hopeful that a solution will be found which will be acceptable to the Indian people and perhaps even to the hon. member.

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In the light of the report on Indians and the law which was tabled in the house the other day I wonder how soon the minister can establish a system whereby special constables with R.C.M.P. training would be appointed to deal with the problems of law and order on our Indian reservations.

Mr. Laing: This is only one aspect of the recommendations made in the survey. We will be looking at the entire report, and I hope we will act in many fields in addition to the one mentioned by the hon. member.

Mr. Dinsdale: I have a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. This particular problem has been discussed many times. I am wondering whether the government has made any moves in anticipation of the recommendations contained in the report.

[Mr. Turner.]

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY**CALGARY—PROTESTS RESPECTING
SHOP LAY-OFFS**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I promised the hon. member for Bow River to give him a report on the employment situation at the C.P.R. terminal shops in Calgary, where 400 men were laid off. Most of them have been called back; they know their return date. If a few of them are not rehired it will be quite easy to find jobs for them, because they are highly skilled labour.

GRAIN**REPORTED LACK OF BOX CARS AND
SHIPPING ORDERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lawrence Watson (Assiniboia): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. A week ago today he promised to ask the Canadian Wheat Board about the possibility of calling western farm representatives together to see what could be done with regard to the shortage of shipping orders and box cars in western Canada. I wonder if he can report on that now.

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I will look into that. I had a report but I do not have it with me at the moment. I will discuss it with the hon. member.

HOUSE OF COMMONS**REQUEST FOR MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE
ON PROCEDURE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Many suggestions have been made by members of our party for changes in the rules and procedures. Will the minister, who is also chairman of the special committee on procedure, institute meetings of this committee on a regular basis in order that discussions may take place on proposed changes on a continuing basis rather than in the slipshod manner in which meetings are being called now?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, we will be glad to schedule as many meetings as the members of the committee desire.

Mr. Starr: Will the minister consider calling one very shortly to set up a schedule?