Inquiries of the Ministry

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INQUIRY INTO ADMINISTRATION OF PAROLE BOARD

On the orders of the day: [Translation]

Mr. Guy Marcoux (Quebec-Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Justice. Can he inform the house of any progress made by the committee which is at present considering the problems of the national parole board?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I had difficulty understanding the last part of the question. I imagine the hon. member's question has to do with the Dion case?

Mr. Marcoux: I am particularly interested in the Dion case, Mr. Speaker. I am concerned about the work of the committee investigating the national parole board, and I am asking the minister if he could inform the house of any progress made in that regard?

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Speaker, before the adjournment, in early August, I appointed two persons for this investigation. I now have their report before me. I am examining it and I will report to the house in due time.

AGRICULTURE

PROVISION OF FEED GRAIN STORAGE IN EASTERN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerard Perron (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that wheat is a popular topic of debate, does the minister intend to order the construction of feed grain bins for the benefit of eastern farmers, so as to reduce the cost of feed grain to the eastern feed mills.

[Text]

Mr. B. S. Beer (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon member for bringing this question before the house. I will bring it to the attention of the minister and an answer will be forthcoming.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

SAINT JOHN, N.B.—PROPOSED SALE OF GRAIN ELEVATOR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport of which I have given him some notice. In view of the recent announcement that the C.N.R. will be selling its grain storage elevator at Saint John, and in the light [Mr. McIlraith.]

of the strain on existing facilities, will the minister reconsider this proposal and perhaps have the elevator operated by the national harbours board to the fullest extent?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I do not know that this is exclusively a matter for the minister but I will certainly look at the question posed by the hon. member to see that the movement of grain out of that harbour is not interfered with in any way.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—REQUEST FOR SETTING UP OF COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Is it the intention of the government to set up the public accounts committee at an early date so that the Auditor General's report and public accounts tabled in this house on January 31, 1963 may be examined and thus maintain the continuity of the committee's work?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to take that matter into consideration. I think the committee should be set up at an early date.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS TO WORKERS IN U.S.

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Charles-Eugene Dionne (Kamouraska): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can he inform the house of the result of negotiations undertaken by representatives of the Canadian government to reach an understanding with the American authorities in order that Canadian workers in the United States, particularly in Maine and New Hampshire, may become eligible for unemployment insurance benefits?

[Text]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour):
Mr. Speaker, last week in an attempt to reach a decision on this matter with the state of Maine, a matter which I might add has been outstanding for the past 20 years, I visited Augusta and put the claims of the Canadian workers before the governor and also before the state employment commission. It would appear to me that there is a very just case for pressing to have an agreement concluded quickly between the state of Maine