

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Can the minister tell us who is to blame for the long delay in paying to the municipalities amounts due under the winter works program? Is it the federal government, the provincial government or the municipal corporations?

[English]

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance):** I undertook to inquire into this the other day in response to a similar question.

**CANADA LABOUR CODE**

## STATEMENT ON DISPOSITION OF DEFERMENTS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour):** On Thursday last, the hon. member for York South inquired as to what action had been taken with regard to requests for deferment under the Canadian Labour (Standards) Act, and I assured him I would look into the matter and give him the information at a later date.

Eight applications for deferment of wages have been rejected while none have, as yet, been granted. This of course, was under the previous minister. With respect to hours, one request for deferment has been granted. In this case both the employer and the union requested the deferment.

The department has several other requests under investigation. I hope to deal with some of them before the end of the month. The department is encouraging the parties in a number of instances to arrive at a suitable accommodation and present their joint views.

**LABOUR RELATIONS**

## MARITIME UNIONS TRUSTEES—INQUIRY AS TO SECOND REPORT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour and ask him to tell us, if he knows, when we may expect the second annual report, or the second report, of the maritime transportation union trustees.

**Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour):** I hope to be able to table it in or about the early part of February.

**PENAL REFORM**

## REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. S. J. Enns (Portage-Neepawa):** My question is directed to the Minister of Justice; in his absence perhaps I could direct it to the

Prime Minister. It arises out of a documentary yesterday on the C.B.C. network dealing with penitentiaries and the alarming, blatant, frankly unrepentant attitude of certain inmates portrayed and reflected in that documentary. This, together with the increase in crime, prompts me to ask whether the government is contemplating the possibility of setting up a parliamentary committee on the whole broad question of penal reform.

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** There will be a committee of the house, a standing committee, I believe, which will be able to go into this question. I would add that I saw the program in question and was as disturbed by some parts of it as I am sure the hon. member was.

**TRADE**

## TEXTILES—POSSIBLE QUOTAS FOR CHINESE WORSTED FABRICS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Nicholas Mandziuk (Marquette):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Revenue arising out of an article in the *Ottawa Journal* of January 21, under the by-line of Victor Mackie and headlined "Mainland China's Exporters Unhappy". Does the government intend to provide a quota for Chinese worsted fabrics instead of retaining dumping duties, which force up the price of this cloth so that it cannot compete with similar material from Japan? The Chinese are quite disturbed, and I am sure the western farmer, who depends on that market for his wheat, is also quite disturbed.

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I have not read the particular article referred to by the hon. member. If he would allow me I would like to look at it and then make comments concerning it.

**Mr. Mandziuk:** I will pass the article on to the minister, but I would like him to keep in mind that the Minister of Finance, then Minister of Trade and Commerce, in 1964 promised the Chinese trade mission that there would be no barriers put up against Chinese imports.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**BROADCASTING**

## PARLIAMENTARY BODY TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS AND CRITICISMS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the