

Inquiries of the Ministry

that there will not come a time, if the strike does not end, when the Canadian government will not have to intervene in the way that is being suggested at present by some. Let us hope the strike will end soon.

Mr. Desmond Code (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is he giving consideration to amending the copper export regulations so that Canadian scrap copper will be retained in Canada to help to relieve the shortage of copper which is causing the lay-off of thousands of Canadian workmen?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I know I have a very wide range of responsibilities but I do not think copper is one of them.

[*Translation*]

LABOUR RELATIONS

SUDBURY, ONT.—REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION IN NICKEL STRIKE

Mr. Gaétan J. Serre (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Does the Minister intend to make representations to the competent authorities in order to settle that strike which has been going on in Sudbury for more than three months?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think that the answer given by the Prime Minister a few minutes ago about the strikes on the Western Coast also applies in this case.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMUNIST CHINA—OPPORTUNITY TO DEBATE RECOGNITION

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the House will have the opportunity to have a debate on the recognition of Communist China in the first part of this session.

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would certainly have no objection if the opposition would like to raise this matter on one of their allotted days.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since this matter could be very important, does the

minister not think that the government might be persuaded to add one of its own days to the debate so that we can have two days to discuss the matter?

Mr. Sharp: Of course, Mr. Speaker, the matter could also be debated during the present debate.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

CHURCHILL, MAN.—OUTLINE OF DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works. However, since the same question would also be of interest to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, perhaps I might direct it to both ministers. Would they consider making available to the residents of Churchill, Manitoba, as quickly as possible a comprehensive outline of their departmental employment requirements at Churchill for the next year or two? I ask this because the United States has seriously curtailed its research projects at Churchill.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I am fully aware of the implications of the conditions that have arisen at Churchill. As the hon. member knows, we foresaw some of them. We have had discussions with the former government of Manitoba as well as with the present government. The acting premier of Manitoba is coming here next week and we will go into the situation further at that time. I am happy to tell the House that both the previous and the present governments of Manitoba have accepted a share of responsibility with respect to Churchill, which is very encouraging indeed. We will work something out, and I hope that subsequently we shall be able to make a statement that will clarify the situation about which my hon. friend is concerned.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

INQUIRY AS TO SETTING UP OF BOARD

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Bearing in mind the latest figures for traffic accidents in Canada which, according to the latest release, show that 5,000 Canadians are killed every 12 months and 150,000 injured, what consideration is being given by the minister to implementing the decision of his predecessor to set up a public board to concern itself with all matters affecting traffic safety?