Inquiries of the Ministry LABOUR RELATIONS

MONTREAL-FEDERAL INTERVENTION IN LABOUR DISPUTES

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Robert Beaulé (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the importance of labour disputes in the Montreal region, does the minister propose to intervene in order to facilitate negotiations?

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Ask Mr. Lesage.

[English]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to hear the hon. Member's question, but I will tomorrow.

DIVORCE

REQUEST FOR ROYAL COMMISSION ON REFORM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. On April 13 the right hon. gentleman told the House that he was giving consideration to the setting up of a royal commission on divorce reform in Canada, I wonder whether he has now completed his consideration of this question, and whether he can announce when this commission will be set up.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I certainly will have to check what I said on April 13, as I do not recall having made that commitment in those terms. I will be glad to look into the situation.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

INQUIRY AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF MANPOWER POLICY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. J. Enns (Portage-Neepawa): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour, asking him how soon he expects the newly announced manpower program will be implemented. Can the Minister also indicate whether there will be any retroactive feature to this program, perhaps to the time of the Prime Minister's announcement in this House?

[Mr. MacEachen.]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, it is not intended that there will be a retroactive feature to this program. The Prime Minister indicated that we hoped to deal with this particular program during this part of the session. As soon as staff and administration arrangements can be made, the program will be put into effect.

QUEBEC-DELAY IN PAYMENT OF WINTER CONSTRUCTION BONUS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Lucien Plourde (Quebec West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Labour.

Could the minister expedite the matter of paying the \$500 promised to owners of homes built in wintertime since up to now, be glad to take it as notice and answer it in the Quebec region, only 25 per cent of the owners received that bonus.

[English]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, an extension to this particular program requires additional authority from Parliament, and just as soon as the House can deal with the supplementary estimates which have to be brought forward we will be able to make these payments. I hope that will be possible very soon.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

EXTENSION OF FRANCHISE IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gene Rhéaume (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Is there any chance that the Government will consider including in its legislative priorities to be dealt with before the recess the minor amendments to the Northwest Territories Act? I am sure these would receive unanimous agreement in the House, thus allowing everyone in the Northwest Territories the right to vote in forthcoming territorial elections?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I will be glad to look into that matter, Mr. Speaker.

PENSIONS

LEGISLATION RESPECTING SUPERVISION OF PRIVATE PLANS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct