

Finance. It is supplementary to certain questions asked earlier. Is a provincially selective application of rent and consumer credit controls one of the proposals to be advanced by the federal government at next week's federal-provincial conference?

**Mr. Benson:** Mr. Speaker, a great many matters will be discussed next week at the federal-provincial conference. I do not think one could go into the details of everything that will be discussed at the conference.

[Later:]

**Mr. Nowlan:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. With no thought of going into details, is there any intent or proposal of the federal government to apply any type of controls on a selective provincial or regional basis? If so, is the Prime Minister going to redefine his concept of one Canada?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I do not think the question as asked is in order.

### LABOUR RELATIONS

#### VANCOUVER LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE— COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT RATIFIED

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that most of the south shore of Vancouver harbour comes within the constituency of Vancouver East and that the operations there affect all of Canada, is the minister in a position to give us a full report on the situation involving the longshoremen on the west coast?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. As hon. members know, it is doubtful whether ministers can give lengthy and full reports without reverting to motions. Perhaps the minister might give a brief, full report.

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** To summarize, Mr. Speaker, the agreement was ratified by a healthy margin of 279 votes. I take this opportunity to thank the hon. gentleman who through the week helped me convince certain of his constituents that this was in their best interests. The agreement was ratified, the men went back to work in a very orderly fashion at eight o'clock Vancouver time, and by this evening the port will be back in full operation.

**Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the announcement the minister has made

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

with respect to Vancouver harbour apply also to other ports in various parts of British Columbia?

**Mr. Mackasey:** Mr. Speaker, Port Alberni was a much more difficult port for political reasons, but it too saw the light.

### INTRODUCTION OF AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION

**Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can he bring us up to date on when he expects to bring in amendments to the pertinent labour legislation, based on the Woods task force report?

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** I hope at this session, Mr. Speaker, but I would point out that the hon. member himself on previous occasions has expressed the view that he would not include as part of the law any restrictive provisions that would automatically deny either employers or employees their rights under the law.

### SUGGESTED INTERVENTION OF MINISTER OF LABOUR IN MONTREAL POSTAL DISPUTE

**Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Labour. In view of his success on the west coast and his other successes during the past year, would he consider offering the services of his department to the Postmaster General in settling the postal dispute in Montreal?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

[Translation]

**Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie):** I have a supplementary for the Minister of Labour.

Has the Postmaster General and Minister of Communications (Mr. Kierans) called upon the Minister of Labour (Mr. Mackasey) to settle this dispute?

### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

#### INFLATION—MEASURES TO ASSIST PEOPLE ON LOW INCOME

**Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

In view of the fact that, according to the news this morning, over 1,666,000 Canadians earn less than \$3,000 per year, could the Prime Minister tell the House what measures he intends to take so as to increase the income of those people and enable them to face the cost of living?