

Inquiries of the Ministry

(Text):

LABOUR CONDITIONS**REQUEST FOR REPORT ON MEETING WITH UNITED MINE WORKERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): Is the Minister of Labour in a position to report on meetings that were held between several members of the cabinet and officials of the united mine workers union within recent days, at which meeting he was the chairman, I believe?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Officers of the united mine workers of America, district 26, met with a number of members of the government on Friday last, including the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, the Minister of Forestry, the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Finance. The officers of the united mine workers dealt with a number of problems of interest to them, and in particular with the recent announcement of the government extending the subvention policy for a period of five years. They expressed gratification with this. They raised also the employment policy of the government in respect of joint programs, forestry programs with the provincial governments, and also the employment policy followed at the Louisburg development. The president of the united mine workers was especially interested in the new training program and the adjustment program for new entrants to the labour force, and in respect of future employment displacements and the efforts that might be made to deal with them.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): May I ask a supplementary question. Did the officers of the united mine workers request any budget modifications on coal mining production machinery in so far as the 11 per cent, 4 per cent or 8 per cent sales tax is concerned, or whatever it is?

Mr. MacEachen: The members of the united mine workers met separately with the Minister of Finance, and I am not able to report to the house on those discussions.

Mr. Fairweather: May I now ask the Minister of Finance—

Mr. Speaker: Order. We are entering into a debate.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**INQUIRY AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF GILL REPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): I should like to ask the Minister of Labour when we can [Mr. Deschatelets.]

expect legislation covering the amendments promised to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): I have answered a number of questions on this particular point, and the situation has not changed since my last reply. At present the report of the Gill committee is under study and consideration, and when that study and consideration has been completed the government will be able to take a decision that might later be reflected in proposed amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): May I ask a supplementary question. Who is making this study of the Gill report at the moment?

Mr. MacEachen: As the hon. gentleman knows, there is an interdepartmental committee of senior officials engaged in a continuing study of the Gill committee report. This committee has not as yet completed its study. Following receipt of these studies, the government will be in a position to deal with them.

Mr. Nasserden: As a supplementary question, could the Minister of Labour indicate if there is any target date when these discussions are to come to a head?

Mr. MacEachen: I am sorry but I did not hear the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Nasserden: I wonder whether the minister could indicate if there is any target date that has been set when these discussions should come to a head?

Mr. Speaker: Order. That question is really out of order, and I am sure the hon. member realizes it.

GRAIN**WHEAT—INQUIRY AS TO PAYMENT OF \$2 PER BUSHEL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. J. W. Fane (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture but since, as usual, he is not here I shall direct it to the Prime Minister. I would like to ask the Prime Minister what provision is being made for the carrying out of his election promise to provide \$3 per bushel for the initial 300 bushels of wheat delivered, and a price of \$2 per bushel for No. 1 wheat based at Fort William?

Mr. Speaker: I thank the hon. member, but I do believe that question has been asked once or twice before.

Some hon. Members: But never answered.