

Inquiries of the Ministry

and their families, who have been laid off at the Sydney steel plant in the last few months. What action does the government contemplate to assist these people who have problems only the unemployed can appreciate?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, I think the Prime Minister undertook that the government would make a statement on this matter early next week.

LABOUR RELATIONS**REQUEST FOR SOLUTION OF STRIKE OF
PACIFIC COAST FISHERMEN**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my question relates to what definitely is an urgent matter. It is based on three phone calls I have had recently from Vancouver. Is the Minister of Fisheries still willing to use his good offices to bring the fishermen's strike on the Pacific coast to a satisfactory conclusion as soon as possible?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, my position in this regard has not changed. The latest word I received just this morning would indicate that there is still hope of a settlement. I hope this settlement will take place before Monday of next week.

WATER RESOURCES**OTTAWA, ONT.—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON
MEASURES TO CORRECT POLLUTION
IN CAPITAL AREA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Mines, Energy and Resources whether he is prepared to make an interim report on the negotiations that are taking place between the cities of Ottawa, Hull and his department concerning water pollution?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I failed to understand the question.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion this question is repetitious of questions asked yesterday. At that time I suggested they might be placed on the order paper.

[Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria).]

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS**MARKERS TO COMMEMORATE FATHERS OF
CONFEDERATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. E. Gray (Essex West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Will the government undertake as an immediate federal government centennial project the placing of appropriate markers at either the birth places or the grave sites of all the fathers of our confederation?

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

AGRICULTURE**INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT
OF TASK FORCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Agriculture, and it has to do with the highly vaunted task force that we have been told about. Can the minister say whether he has a target date for the establishment of this group, and whether it will be before the middle of this year?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we have seen many people concerned with the task force and are hoping to make an appointment very shortly.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Batten in the chair.

The Chairman: Order. House again in committee of supply, estimates of the Department of Labour for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1968, vote No. 1. Vote No. 1 will be found at page 256 of the bluebook. The details are listed on page 258.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

1. General administration, including grants as detailed in the estimates, \$1,972,000.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Chairman, in presenting the estimates of the Department of Labour for consideration by the committee today, I am very pleased to be able to do so in a climate that is much more tranquil, much less volatile than that which permeated my introductory remarks when my estimates came before the committee about this time last year. Though the present condition may prove to be merely a lull before a new escalation of activity in the