

Questions

ment to assist the many female employees in the public service with small children?

2. (a) Is there now a provision for a male employee of the federal public service to have time-off with pay on the occasion of his wife having a baby and, if so, what is the basis for it (b) is there any provision for a female employee of the federal public service to have time-off with pay for the childbirth (c) is the government considering the grant of leave with pay for such women?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): 1. No.

2. (a) Yes. Except where there is no provision in a collective agreement, a male employee in the public service may be granted special leave with pay up to a maximum of one day on the occasion of the birth of his child. This provision has come about as a result of negotiation in collective bargaining. (b) No. (c) No.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCE—RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY CANADA

Question No. 1,705—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Were the three agreements signed by Canada during the eleventh session of The Hague Conference ratified and, if not, for what reasons?

2. What action is the federal government taking to ratify the agreements concerning provincial legislative jurisdiction?

3. When is the next session of The Hague Conference to be held and what is the agenda?

4. What progress has been made in the studies of this subject mentioned at page 8298 of *Hansard* of May 5, 1969.

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. As they are still under study, Canada has neither signed nor ratified the three conventions resulting from the eleventh session of the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

2. Two of the conventions (that on the recognition of divorces and legal separations and that on the law applicable to traffic accidents) are the subjects of detailed questionnaires sent to all provinces. No such action has yet been taken with respect to the third convention on the taking of evidence abroad in civil or commercial matters.

3. The twelfth session of the Hague Conference is tentatively scheduled for October 1972. The agenda will probably include as subjects (1) the responsibility of manufacturers for their products, (2) succession to property (especially as relates to the administration of estates) and (3) maintenance obligations relative to adults.

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4. The studies concerning the conventions on the recognition of divorces and the law applicable to traffic accidents are well advanced. Study of the convention on the taking of evidence abroad in civil or commercial matters is at a more preliminary stage.

[English]

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF CANADIAN OCEAN-GOING FLEET

Question No. 1,740—**Mr. McCleave:**

1. Is there a feasibility study of a Canadian ocean-going fleet being made and, if so, has it been instructed (a) to regard the permanent sea-lift requirements of such Canadian corporations as MacMillan-Bloedel Limited, the Aluminum Corporation of Canada, the Canadian Pacific System and Imperial Oil Limited, as an existing Canadian chartered ocean-going fleet (b) to establish how many foreign flag ships are chartered now by these and other Canadian corporations?

2. Would the government consider extending to Canadian corporations the same tax treatments extended to corporations in other prominent marine powers such as the United Kingdom and Norway for the purpose of operating ocean-going ships?

3. Has the inquiry made a comparative study of current world labour rates and, as Canada now has no ocean-going fleet under its own flag, has the inquiry approached Canadian labour leaders to establish what rates and working conditions would be acceptable to Canadian seamen if Canada did have an ocean-going fleet?

4. How long has such inquiry been in progress, who are the personnel carrying it out, and when does it expect to make its report?

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: 1. As announced in the House of Commons on June 3, 1969, (*Hansard* p. 9380), a "Canadian Merchant Marine Feasibility Study" is being made and the terms of reference explicitly require the identification and quantitative forecast of major Canadian ocean-borne export and import trades.

2. The consideration of fiscal and other measures must await the findings of the study and an analysis of the cost/benefit effects upon the Canadian economy.

3. A detailed comparative analysis of labour costs is explicit in the terms of reference.

4. The study commenced about one year ago and the report is expected about September 30, 1970. As noted in the announcement referred to in the answer to question No. 1, the contract for the study was awarded to: Hedlin Menzies & Associates Ltd., Winnipeg, Toronto & Vancouver who have subcontracted parts of the study to