

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

government to extend the expiration date relating to the completion of winter works projects.

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour):** No decision has been reached with respect to a possible extension. The matter is under review, and it will be possible to make a definite decision at a later time. A decision at the present time one way or another might not have the effect which the hon. member would seem to wish.

**INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION RESPECTING  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the minister's assurance three days ago that he would carry out the commitment he made with regard to legislation respecting occupational safety, and in view of his statement in the house on October 14 last—and I quote his words as reported on page 9062: "it is now being drafted and will be proceeded with as soon as possible"—can the hon. gentleman tell us whether this legislation has been drafted and when it will be presented to the house?

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour):** I think the drafting process is about complete. It is my expectation that we ought to be able to deal with this matter during the next session. That will be my object.

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**

**TRURO, N.S.—LAY-OFFS IN EXPRESS AND  
FREIGHT DEPARTMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. C. F. Kennedy (Colchester-Hants):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Has the minister received representations from the local C.B.R.T. of Truro, Nova Scotia, protesting what they term unwarranted lay-offs in the C.N.R. express and freight departments there?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I would have to inquire before I could answer that question.

**Mr. Kennedy:** A supplementary question. In view of the seriousness of the situation as set out in their telegram, would the minister investigate the situation?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I shall be glad to.

20220—760

**POSSIBILITY OF STRIKE ACTION BY POLICE**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to reply to a question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Port Arthur, who inquired if there was any likelihood of a strike of C.N.R. policemen as the result of the postponement of a definite decision by the Canada labour relations board as announced recently.

The answer, Mr. Speaker, would seem to be no. There was nothing in the decision of the board that would increase the possibility of strike action in the current dispute over wages and working conditions. The C.N.R. had asked the board to reconsider its decision of 1960 certifying the bargaining unit of policemen. The board replied that it did not consider the company had advanced adequate grounds for such action, but would grant a hearing if on further consideration the company desired one.

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I should like to ask the Minister of Labour whether the action of the C.N.R. in raising the wages of the C.N.R. policemen at a time when the matter was being negotiated was not in fact an unfair labour practice. I wonder whether the minister would look into that.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**NATIONAL PARKS**

**RIDING MOUNTAIN—POLICY RESPECTING HAY  
CUTTING AND GRAZING**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Nicholas Mandziuk (Marquette):** Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the minister of northern affairs and ask him when he expects to announce the hay cutting permit policy and the grazing permit policy in the Riding Mountain national park. Quite a lot of the territory adjacent to the park is submarginal land. The farmers on this land have had to establish herds to supplement their income, and not having sufficient land of their own on which to graze their cattle and cut hay they have resorted to the park land for this purpose. This has been the practice for generations, for the last 70 years. Therefore, in view of this situation and the disturbing rumours which are circulating—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.