

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**KENT COUNTY, N.B.—SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS TO WOODS WORKERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Guy Crossman (Kent (N.B.)): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Labour. Has he been made aware of the fact that at least 200 woodsmen in Kent county, New Brunswick, had their unemployment insurance suspended because they refused to work under difficult conditions due to deep snow, and will he have this situation investigated?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Yes Mr. Speaker, my attention has been drawn to this complaint. I have tried to get in touch with the chief commissioner but have not yet been able to do so. I will be speaking to the other commissioners later today, if I cannot contact the chief commissioner. I will request a report and reply to the hon. member.

AIR POLLUTION**EQUIPPING OF AUTOMOBILES WITH PROTECTIVE DEVICES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare is based on the answer given to my question yesterday to the effect that the government was not immediately ordering anti-pollution clean air packages in cars as has been done in the United States. Today my question is as follows. Was this decision made after verbal or written representations by the motor vehicle industry in Canada, and did the minister contact any United States health officials or experts in Canadian urban centres who take air pollution measurements before arriving at the decision he announced yesterday?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the question asked by the hon. member refers to circumstances which have lapsed and therefore the question should more properly be put on the order paper.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, I will rephrase my question. Was the decision announced yesterday that Canada will not get the clean air package as has been ordered in the United States arrived at only after strong recommendations by the Canadian motor vehicle industry? It is most important that we know this.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I have received no representations whatsoever on this subject matter from the industry.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, may I put a supplementary question to the Minister of Industry. Before arriving at this decision did the government receive any strong written or verbal representations from the motor vehicle industry in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to uphold the opinion I expressed a moment ago to the hon. member, that this question should be placed on the order paper.

LABOUR RELATIONS**RAILWAY DISPUTE—GOVERNMENT ACTION FOLLOWING REJECTION OF MEDIATION REPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): I wish to address a question to the Minister of Labour and ask him whether the government has arrived at any decision on the course it will follow in respect of those railway unions which did not agree to the recommendations of Mr. Goldenberg.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Starr: Can the minister say what course of action will be taken to settle the dispute?

Mr. Nicholson: First of all the Minister of Labour will be meeting with the representatives or spokesmen for the two groups of unions that have not accepted the results of the mediation proceedings and have not gone along with them. Meetings with them have been arranged for tomorrow, after which I will be meeting the representatives of the railways. It is expected that the board of arbitration will be set up before too long, but I must have these consultations before taking any such action.

[Later:]

Mr. Starr: I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour, based on his answer to my previous question, which had to do with the selection of personnel to the arbitration board to deal with railway disputes. This will affect those unions which have not adopted the recommendations of Mr. Goldenberg. Will the members of the board be appointed on a basis of their knowledge of economics, the trade union movement and transportation, or will other criteria be used?