

*Inquiries of the Ministry***LABOUR RELATIONS****QUEBEC—STOPPAGE OF WORK BY
LONGSHOREMEN**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): My question is addressed to the Minister of Labour. In view of the worsening situation in connection with the strike of longshoremen at the St. Lawrence river ports, is the minister in a position to place before the house the optimistic possibility of an early settlement of this dispute? What does the government intend to do about it, with the ships piling up and exports being held back?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): I am not in a position to make a report at this time, optimistic or otherwise. The government has seen fit to appoint an experienced mediator, who enjoys the confidence of both sides in this dispute. That mediator is sitting in Montreal at the moment, and I do not think the government should be asked to state what action—one way or the other—may be required until we have had a report from him.

Mr. Diefenbaker: What does the minister mean by that? Does he mean the dawdling on the part of the government is to continue? Is that what he means?

Mr. Nicholson: There has been no dawdling.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

**CANADIAN BROADCASTING
CORPORATION****REQUEST FOR REPORT ON DISCUSSIONS
WITH UNIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Labour.

Has the ministerial committee looking into the conflict between the C.N.T.U. and the C.L.C. at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reached a decision, and if so, could it be known?

[English]

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): I announced the other day that there would probably be an adjournment of the meeting which had been set for this morning. A new

[Mr. Speaker.]

date has been suggested for that meeting; it will probably be held on June 15 of this year. I have not yet had a chance to check with the chairman of the ad hoc committee since his return, but we are working toward that date.

BANK OF CANADA**INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF AMENDING LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister of Finance for giving notice in *Votes and Proceedings* this morning of a bill to amend the Bank of Canada Act. May I ask the leader of the house whether we can expect this bill to be placed before us for discussion next week?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): I have no way of knowing that. All the government can do is indicate the business it proposes to submit to the house. I am afraid that last night I had to indicate that we were in exactly the same place with regard to legislation as we were a week ago Thursday night.

Mr. Diefenbaker: For which the government is to blame.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Winkler: If I assure the leader of the house of my co-operation can he assure me that this matter will be up for discussion next week?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**RHODESIA—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON
PRESENT SITUATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, having given him notice five minutes ago. In view of the reported announcement by the Prime Minister of Great Britain that the policy of sanctions with respect to Rhodesia has failed, and in view of his reported decision to accept in effect the recommendations of the Conservative opposition to proceed to negotiate with Mr. Smith, the Prime Minister of Rhodesia, with a view to bringing about a settlement, has the minister any comment to make in connection with this important development?