

That the committee have power to engage the services of such technical, clerical and other personnel as may be necessary for the purpose of the inquiry;

That the committee have the power to send for persons, papers and records, to examine witnesses, to report from time to time, and to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the committee, and that standing order 66 be suspended in relation thereto; and

That a message be sent to the Senate requesting their honours to unite with this house for the above purpose, and to select, if the Senate deems it so advisable, some of its members to act on the proposed special joint committee.

**Mr. McIlraith:** Stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to section 2 of standing order 21 this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the house.

### FISHERIES

#### SLAUGHTER OF SEALS—CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the report that charges will be laid by the Humane Society arising out of, as described, the sadistic and stupid cruelty in the slaughter of baby seals, will the minister assure the house that action will be taken to put an end to this inhumane and senseless killing?

**Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries):** Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member I wish to say that I understand there have been a few cases of cruelty to animals since the opening of the seal season on Monday last. I am awaiting a report from the S.P.C.A., the Humane Society's representatives, who were present during the whole operation. As soon as this report is received I intend to make a complete statement in the house on motions.

In the meantime I have instructed that action be taken to proceed with charges against those responsible for violations of the sealing regulations. I also wish to inform the hon. member that prior to the amending of the regulations there was no clause therein which prohibited the skinning of seals alive, if I may use that expression. I understand there have been some abuses this year by a few seal hunters and charges will be laid against them.

I repeat that I will make a full and complete statement on motions as soon as I receive the report.

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### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Starr:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of what has been brought up and factually evidenced on television—the minister himself was a witness—does he not think that the regulations must be tightened now?

**Mr. Robichaud:** Mr. Speaker, on two different occasions, in 1965 and again in 1966, I did indicate there was an intention to tighten the regulations because there was room for improvement. That is why we had representatives of the S.P.C.A. with us. We provided them with transportation to the sealing areas with a view to finding out what amendments can be made to the existing regulations so that no cruelty would take place in the killing of seals.

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Fisheries whether or not he will now give consideration to finding a more humane method of killing these baby seals?

**Mr. Robichaud:** That is exactly what I have just said I will do, Mr. Speaker.

### LABOUR RELATIONS

#### HALIFAX DOCKYARD—JOB EVALUATION WITHOUT CONSULTATION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam asked the Minister of National Defence a question with regard to the Halifax dockyard and the job evaluation or classification program in progress there. He particularly asked the minister whether the employees there had been provided with certain forms and whether the government had refused to negotiate regarding job classification with the organization concerned. The minister said that he would take the question as notice. Would he now inform us as to his answer?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Associate Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, so far as the determination of pay rates is concerned, I believe that is the responsibility of Treasury Board. As far as I know, what has been sent to the dockyard is a booklet describing the particular reclassification job which is being done. Now, I am supposed to receive this booklet at any moment, and at that time I will be in a position to give the answer I promised yesterday.

**Mr. Lewis:** A supplementary question. Would the minister undertake to look into