

Inquiries of the Ministry

optimistic one, but both sides have been assured that my officials there are available to assist them, if they need such assistance at any time. In addition, I offered to stay over for yesterday and today if they felt that I could be of assistance. I said I had to be back here in Ottawa on Wednesday, and it was agreed that there was no point in my staying longer at this particular time.

Mr. Douglas: As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that my information is that there is quite a backlog of material building up at the ports, and also that the men who are working are doing so without adequate supervision and under fairly hazardous conditions, has the minister any plans to find some solution to the situation as quickly as possible before some ports come to a complete stop?

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that this second question has been asked by the hon member. Though there are rumours to the effect that there is not adequate supervision, my information is that in some cases at least there is much greater supervision than there has been in the past; that instead of having one foreman with two or three gangs under him, in some instances a foreman now has only one gang under him. I may add that I personally interviewed at least 40 longshoremen foremen during the evening, and the situation is hardly as it has been presented by the hon. member.

[Translation]

IMMIGRATION**ENCOURAGEMENT TO FRENCH NATIONALS
TO ENTER CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

According to press reports the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Marchand) is now in Paris to discuss immigration. Is the prime purpose of the minister's visit to foster French immigration to Canada?

Has the minister gone to France precisely to make recommendations on behalf of the government?

[English]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the purpose, of course, is to encourage immigration and the minister will be reporting when he returns as to how successful he has been in achieving that purpose.

[Mr. Nicholson.]

UNITED NATIONS**ADMISSION OF MAINLAND CHINA—DIPLO-
MATIC REPRESENTATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the right hon. Prime Minister. Would he comment to the house on the report that the Red Chinese foreign office has said they attach no importance at all to his statement the other day regarding the admission of Red China to the United Nations or the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Red China, and can he say whether he has been in communication with the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Martin) or the Secretary General of the United Nations in regard to this problem?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was in communication with the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Martin) this morning. He will be in New York today and tomorrow. I hope he will be back in his seat in this house on Wednesday, and perhaps he will be able to report then.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Would the Prime Minister say which nation acts as Canada's intermediary in Peking, and has there been any communication from the representative of Canada in China regarding this offer that was made in the house?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, there has been no direct communication with Peking.

Mr. Diefenbaker: But which nation represents us?

Mr. Pearson: Our diplomatic relations in a country like Communist China, where we are not represented ourselves, are in the hands of the United Kingdom embassy.

INDUSTRY**OSHAWA, ONT.—IMPACT OF CANADA-U.S.
AUTOMOTIVE AGREEMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of a statement issued by "a spokesman for Labour Minister John R. Nicholson" which said that the city of Oshawa was being "a little unreasonable" in expecting a quick reply to its supplemental brief dealing with the economic impact of the auto pact on