

REFERENCE TO REPORTED REMARKS OF MR.
IAN MACLAREN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. G. ROSS (St. Paul's): On June 4, I asked the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply a question in regard to a statement made by Mr. Ian MacLaren to the effect that we would have widespread unemployment because of the coal situation.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): All right; you can call "order" if you wish, but I think it is a pretty serious thing if the deputy coal controller says we are to have widespread unemployment because of a shortage of coal.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. According to the rules the hon. gentleman may not make a statement on the orders of the day. If he wishes to put a question he may do so.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): Very well, Mr. Speaker. The minister is not in his place, but perhaps the parliamentary assistant can tell us something about it. My question is, what are we going to do to prevent widespread unemployment in this country?

Mr. G. J. McILRAITH (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): Mr. Speaker, the minister has made two statements on the subject of the coal shortage. Apparently they were not noted by the hon. gentleman, though I can turn up the references quite easily. He has answered the hon. member's question on June 4 arising out of the statement of the deputy coal controller. As to the other part of the hon. gentleman's question, I suggest the answer is to keep this government in power.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): May I ask a supplementary question?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): The parliamentary assistant asked me a question, so I should like to ask, how long is this government going to be in power?

EXPORT OF TRUCK SPRINGS TO DETROIT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggart): May I ask a question based upon a telegram I just received? I am informed that steel truck springs are being exported from Canada by War Assets corporation and Ontario Steel Products to Detroit Steel Products, where a strike is in progress; and in this telegram the charge is made that this is being done in order to break that strike. In view of the shortage

of steel required in this country for automotive and farm equipment, would the minister look into the matter and report to-morrow?

Mr. G. J. McILRAITH (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): We had no notice of the question, and I cannot answer it at the moment, but we can get the information to-morrow.

Mr. COLDWELL: I received the telegram only just now.

LUMBER INDUSTRY—STRIKE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. ANGUS MacINNIS (Vancouver East): Is the Minister of Labour in a position to state whether both parties to the dispute in the lumber industry of British Columbia have accepted the report of Chief Justice Sloan?

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): The operators have accepted it, and the union have turned it down.

FRUIT

BRITISH COLUMBIA BERRY CROP—THREAT OF
WASTAGE THROUGH LACK OF
CONTAINERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. A. CRUICKSHANK (Fraser Valley): I should like to direct a question to the government. I do not know which department it comes under so I have given notice to three ministers. My first question is, what steps are being taken to save thousands of tons of berries worth over a million dollars now under contract to the United Kingdom from being lost, owing to the lack of barrels and containers? The second question—and these are straight questions—is, will the government grant an immediate export permit for five hundred tons of raspberries to the United States—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I would suggest that the hon. gentleman put his question on the order paper.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker; I could not hear what you said.

Mr. SPEAKER: I suggested that the hon. gentleman put his question on the order paper, as it appears to be quite lengthy.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: These berries are rotting on the ground to-day. If that is not urgent I do not know what is. May I ask my question?

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. gentleman insists on asking his question I suggest that he be brief and to the point, as required by the rules of the house.