

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Broadview.

LABOUR RELATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION AMENDING INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND DISPUTES INVESTIGATION ACT

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. In view of the major lay-offs occurring in industry across Canada, when does the minister intend to bring forth legislation in accordance with the Freedman report?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): There is no legislation based exclusively on the Freedman report, Mr. Speaker. If the hon. gentleman is referring to the major overhaul of the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act, which may include recommendations on the Freedman report, we are still waiting for a few briefs from interested parties, including labour, which should be on my desk in the next few weeks. That is the last major hurdle.

GIVING OF NOTICE BEFORE MASS LAY-OFFS

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, would the minister say whether the government is contemplating legislation dealing with a requirement in respect of federal industries for some period of notice before mass lay-offs take place?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I think this would be highly desirable and in keeping with the twentieth century.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PROVISION OF PROTECTION FOR PEACEFUL ASSEMBLIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister which involves the policy of the government or successive governments toward the right of peaceful assembly. In view of the fact that a widely representative, peaceful and legal assembly on Parliament Hill last Saturday had to organize an army within its own members to assure peace, may those who wish to demonstrate get a permit to assemble with the expectation that they will receive some protection by the RCMP from radical groups?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I am afraid I cannot answer this question

Inquiries of the Ministry

offhand. The hon. member is asking a very difficult and important policy question. I can say that the Minister of Justice and the Solicitor General are now engaged in an attempt to formulate for the government our policy on the whole question of maintaining the law in the country.

PUBLIC WORKS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of Public Works. As we both come from the same city I know he will understand the purport of my question. Announcements have been made and contracts let relevant to federal public works construction in many provinces, particularly Quebec and Ontario, but not with regard to British Columbia. May I ask the minister when announcements will be made in respect of federal construction plans in British Columbia in general and Vancouver in particular?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member is referring to an announcement I made that it was our intention to build a new federal building in the city of Vancouver. A survey is under way now and I would expect a decision to be made concerning the location and an indication of its size in a matter of three or four months.

POLLUTION

DUMPING OF RAW SEWAGE IN RED RIVER BY TOWN OF SELKIRK

Mr. E. B. Osler (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question which is supplementary to a statement made earlier by the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. In view of the fact that Manitoba, through the Manitoba Environmental Commission, on March 12 gave the town of Selkirk permission to continue to dump raw sewage into the Red River for several years, would he take up this matter of permission at its source when discussing another matter with the provincial Minister of Mines and Natural Resources?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: It must be assumed that the question will be taken into account by the minister.