

*Inquiries of the Ministry***PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL**

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT,  
EXERCISE OF POWERS, ETC.

**Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Trade and Commerce)** moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide for the establishment and operation of a national productivity council and the appointment of its members and staff, to define its duties and objects, to authorize it to exercise certain powers and to provide for other related and incidental matters.

Motion agreed to.

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

PROVISION FOR FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

**Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour)** moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to authorize the Minister of Labour to enter into agreements with provincial governments for the encouragement of technical and vocational training and to authorize the making of contributions by Canada toward the cost of programs of technical and vocational training undertaken under provincial authority, including contributions toward the cost of capital expenditures on training facilities connected with such programs; to authorize the Minister of Labour to undertake programs of technical and vocational training for specified categories of persons; to provide for the establishment and operation of an advisory council and the appointment of its members and staff and to define its duties; and to provide for other related and incidental matters.

Motion agreed to.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS**

THREATENED RAIL STRIKE—REQUEST FOR  
STATEMENT ON MONTREAL MEETINGS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier):** May I ask the Minister of Labour if he will report to the house on the outcome of the talks in Montreal with the representatives of the unions and the railways, which he and his colleagues had recently in an effort to avoid a general railway strike?

**Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour):** My colleagues the Minister of Transport and the Postmaster General and I met with the representatives of the negotiating committee of the non-operating unions, and then we met with the presidents of the two major railways in this country. We had a very cordial

[Mr. Walker.]

discussion on the various aspects of the dispute. However, the non-operating unions were not able to get together a full representation of their negotiating committee, as they were awaiting the arrival of three or four representatives who were coming from the western part of the country. They are holding their meeting this afternoon, and will be communicating with us later on today, I hope.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Is a further meeting with them contemplated?

**Mr. Starr:** That remains to be seen following the outcome of this meeting this afternoon.

**PIPE LINES**

POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF OIL LINE TO  
MONTREAL

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia):** I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister arising out of the great interest in all parts of Canada in the government's decision as to whether or not an oil pipe line will be constructed to Montreal. Can the Prime Minister inform the house what consideration is being given to this project at this time?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** The consideration of all the aspects is, of course before the government at this time.

**Mr. Argue:** Can the Prime Minister say when a decision might be reached, whether at an early date or a later date?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** At the moment we are trying to expedite the business of the house. When we have this business expedited, then we will be in a position to advise when a decision in this regard will be made.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

NATO—SUGGESTED POOL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition):** I should like to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs based upon a report which I received just before lunch; otherwise I would have given him notice of this question. Perhaps he will wish to take it as notice in view of its importance. My question is whether the Secretary of State for External Affairs has any comment to make on the reported statement of the supreme commander of the NATO forces in Europe, made to the NATO parliamentary association in Paris today, that a pool of nuclear weapons should be set up for