

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NORTHERN AFFAIRS****UNITED KENO HILL MINES—CURTAILMENT
OF PRODUCTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Greene: Welcome back.

Mr. Nielsen: Not having a Jetstar to get around in like the minister of northern affairs, it takes me a little longer. May I ask a question of the minister of manpower? What action is the government intending—he is gone.

Mr. McEwen: Another cabinet shuffle.

Mr. Nielsen: May I direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in the hope that he can answer. What action does the government intend to take to avoid the announced curtailment or early closure, because of inflationary costs, of the operations of the mining complex of United Keno Hill Mines, directly affecting 2,000 people, four communities in the Yukon and 20 per cent of Canada's silver production?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, my first inclination is to say, "welcome home". In reference to the announcement made by Mr. Fraser in respect of Keno Hill, I think the hon. member would agree with me that if a careful study is made of the statement the very pessimistic interpretation put upon it by certain people in the Yukon and elsewhere seems scarcely justified. I am hopeful that the statement attributed to someone in the company yesterday to the effect it was hoped the mine would not be closed at all is much closer to the actual situation. We are making inquiries and asking for explanations of the statement made by Mr. Fraser. I am hopeful that we can probably clarify what I thought was a measure of optimism in the rather gloomy prediction that was first made.

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APPLICATION OF U.S. LAW TO
CANADIAN PUBLISHERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to [Mr. Brown.]

the Minister of Industry and Defence Production on a matter which is of interest to many people in this country. Can the minister inform the house with regard to the latest developments in United States copyright law as they affect Canadian printers and publishers?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest to the hon. member that this type of question should be placed on the order paper.

COAL**REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH
UNION PRESIDENT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister if it is his intention to meet the request of the president of the U.M.W.A. and, if so, when he intends to meet with him.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, offhand I am not aware what the request is.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): May I ask a supplementary question. Am I to understand that the Prime Minister has not received any correspondence requesting a meeting on the Nova Scotia coal industry? Is the Prime Minister leaving the impression with the house that he has not received any such correspondence?

Mr. Pearson: If the hon. member would stop using initials when he speaks, I might be able to understand him more easily. This matter is under consideration.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): A further supplementary question. Am I to understand from the Prime Minister that under the circumstances—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Cape Breton South.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, am I to understand from the Prime Minister that under the circumstances now prevailing in Nova Scotia he is unaware of what the U.M.W.A. is?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, I am quite aware. If the hon. member would not mutter the initials I might be able to understand them.