

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Pearson: Both, Mr. Speaker. We are getting information from our representative on the spot.

ENERGY

JOINT CANADIAN-U.S. STUDY OF CONTINENTAL RESOURCES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Ou'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether he has had time to talk to the Minister of Trade and Commerce about the report that came out of Washington last Thursday morning about a continental resources policy not being able to be continued with, or started, because of lack of personnel?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, in Washington when I was having some discussions with Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Udall, the subject arose of the joint studies that we have been considering in the joint cabinet committee. We have been proceeding with a number of urgent joint studies in the fields in which our two governments are interested. I did think, however, that I should say to the Secretary that I thought it would not be the best use of the limited resources available if we were to undertake too grandiose a study, and that we should concentrate on matters of immediate interest.

SOCIAL SECURITY

ONTARIO—REFUSAL OF SCHOOL TEACHERS TO OBTAIN NUMBERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, on May 5 I directed a question to the Minister of Labour asking him whether it was true that Ontario teachers have not applied for social insurance numbers because the Ontario Teachers' Federation has decided that they should not. I also directed his attention to the fact that there was a case now before the courts, the *Crown v. Daniel E. Woodward*, the publisher of *Canada Month*, for refusing to compel his employees to take out insurance numbers.

On May 6 the hon. Member for Quebec-Montmorency, in the Minister's absence, restated this question, and again on May 7, at which time the Minister said he did not know of any other action which the Crown was taking against an employer for refusing to force his employees to take out new numbers.

I would now re-ask the original question again. Is it true that teachers in Ontario are not applying for their social insurance numbers because they have been advised not to do so by the Ontario Teachers' Federation?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I think I have already answered these points in the absence of the hon. gentleman, when replying to the hon. Member for Quebec-Montmorency, but I will say that we have no official notification that the Ontario Teachers' Federation has requested its members not to apply for social insurance numbers. In the registration which was undertaken previously there was no legal obligation on the part of the teachers to secure numbers because they were not part of the insurable population, but the fact is that members of the Ontario Teachers' Federation did register voluntarily.

[Later:]

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. My question is supplementary to the one previously posed concerning the Ontario teachers who have decided not to apply for social insurance numbers, or for social insurance registration. As I understood the Minister, he said these people were not obligated to make application for these numbers because they did not come within the ambit of the Unemployment Insurance Act. If I am correct, I wonder whether the Minister could go a little further and say what will be the situation upon implementation of the Canada Pension Plan?

Mr. MacEachen: As I recollect it, Mr. Speaker, teachers are part of the pensionable population and will accordingly be obligated to secure a number for that purpose.

HATE LITERATURE

REQUEST FOR PROHIBITION OF DISSEMINATION THROUGH MAIL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Postmaster General, and in doing so I am certain I speak on behalf of all hon. Members in welcoming him back and hoping his health has improved satisfactorily.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Winch: Yesterday I asked the acting, and the acting, acting, acting Postmaster General a question relative to the distribution from Vancouver, B.C. and Gooderham,