

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Text]

HOUSINGREQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF WINTER
CONSTRUCTION BONUS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Rémi Paul (Berthier-Maskinonge-Delanaudiere): Could the Minister of Labour inform the house of the government's intentions concerning the different requests, and especially the one presented by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, asking that the time limit of March 21 for the completion of houses be extended by at least one month so that a greater number of builders can get the \$500 bonus announced last fall by the Minister of Labour?

[Text]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): It is not the intention to extend this period, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

Mr. Paul: Is the minister aware of the fact that, due to the present scarcity of certain building materials, many builders are having a hard time getting the materials they need to finish their construction?

[Text]

Mr. MacEachen: I have not been aware of this particular difficulty, but I will investigate the extent to which it has held up winter construction.

[Later:]

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I think my question is supplementary to an earlier question addressed to the Minister of Labour. I understand the minister to have said that it is not proposed to extend the time for the application of the \$500 bonus to houses completed during the winter, but will the minister give consideration to relaxing the regulations in cases where, say, a house is 90 per cent completed and could be completed in two or three weeks, and the non-completion is not the fault of the builder?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to consider very carefully the representations made by my hon. friend and others with respect to this program, and if any alteration is warranted we will be glad to consider it.

INDIAN AFFAIRSSYDNEY, N.S.—EXTENSION OF CITY SERVICES
TO RESERVE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerald A. Regan (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to [Mr. Favreau.]

the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Has the minister's department made any decision with reference to negotiating an extension of city services to the Sydney Indian reserve by the city of Sydney to provide for snow clearance, road maintenance, etc., in addition to the present services?

Hon. René Tremblay (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question, and I can advise him that some preliminary discussion has been held with authorities of the city of Sydney on the possibility of extending additional municipal services to the Sydney reserve. This will include such items as street maintenance, snow and ice control, police and fire protection. The city's offer is under consideration, and the regional supervisor of Indian agencies for the maritime region has been instructed to meet with the city officials to go into the proposal in more detail. As soon as these discussions have been concluded and a decision has been reached, I shall be glad to advise the house further.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): As a supplementary question, can the minister inform the house whether this policy applies to all provinces in Canada?

Mr. Tremblay: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUDAN—STEPS TO PROTECT CANADIAN CITIZENS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is he aware that yesterday the Sudan government announced as a policy that it would expel from the Sudan all missionaries working in the southern part of the country? Further, if he is aware of this, and in view of the fact that among the missionaries there is a sizeable number of Canadians and that there is a civil war raging at the present time, will steps be taken to protect the lives of Canadian people there?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I was aware of this question, and steps are being taken.

THE SENATEREPORTED STATEMENT BY MEMBER FOR THREE
RIVERS RESPECTING REFORM

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to