

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

AGRICULTURE

Eleventh report of Standing Committee on Agriculture—
Mr. Daudlin.

LABOUR, MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration—Miss Nicholson.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION ACT

MEASURE TO REPEAL ACT AND TO AUTHORIZE CONTINUATION OF PENSIONS PAID BY COMMISSION

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-78, to repeal an act respecting the Halifax Relief Commission and to authorize the continuation of pensions, grants or allowances paid by the Halifax Relief Commission.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

● (1510)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[*English*]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY—REQUESTED DEBATE ON STRIKE AND LAY-OFFS

Mr. Paul E. McRae (Parliamentary Secretary to Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 26, I ask leave to move a motion for the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration. The specific and important matter is the nationwide strike in the pulp and paper industry, a strike involving some 25,000 members of the Canada Paperworkers Union, and lay-offs of the same order in the bush and allied operations.

Since this industry represents one of the largest single components of our export trade, a significant portion of the increasing unfavourable balance of trade can be attributed to this strike. The federal government's concern must also be with the relationship of this strike to the federal guidelines, since almost all the contracts in the industry are dated before January 1, 1974, and settlements are likely to include catch-up which will require appearances before the Anti-Inflation Board. If acceptable, Mr. Speaker, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Mr. Béchard):

That this House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There have, of course, been a number of applications for an emergency debate, pursuant

Order Paper Questions

to Standing Order 26, relating to work stoppages in various industries. In some cases they have presented the Chair with a serious problem in view of the fact that the industry involved is either a federal undertaking or dealt in some direct way with a bargaining agent that was federally-constituted or otherwise related to the jurisdiction of the federal government.

Without going into the details of all the other considerations or similar considerations involved in this work stoppage which would in any case make the Chair reluctant to grant an emergency debate until it was seen that there was no action within the sphere of collective bargaining which might bring it to a resolution, there is the additional difficulty that, except by virtue of the reference to the anti-inflation measures which are, of course, matters of federal jurisdiction, the fact is that it appears to be a work stoppage in the private sector involving private companies and unions which are not in any way subject to federal jurisdiction. Accordingly, there is the additional difficulty the Chair has that this does not seem to be the jurisdiction to which this House should be addressing itself in the way suggested by the hon. member.

There is, of course, as in other work stoppages, nothing to prevent the hon. member making application at another time; but there is, in fact, a jurisdictional problem which I feel, with great respect, the hon. member would have to get around. In the circumstances, I feel we ought not to set aside special time for such a debate.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 3,144, 3,155, 3,253, 3,484, 3,507 and 3,515.

I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[*Text*]

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PENSION CHEQUES ISSUED

Question No. 3,144—Mr. Whittaker:

What is the average number of pension cheques issued for the various departments where the majority of payments remain static for annual twelve month periods such as superannuation, veterans pensions, Canada Pension Plan and others?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): The average number of pension cheques issued per month during 1974 (calendar or fiscal year 74/75 as noted) for the following programs was: Public Service Superannuation, 82,642 (1974/75); RCMP Superannuation, 3,475 (1974/75); Canadian Forces Superannuation, 48,758 (1974/75); Canada Pension Plan, 485,769 (1974); Old Age Security