

Strike in Schofield Plant

war-time prices and trade board and see if we can ascertain the benefits and disadvantages of the proposal. It will receive consideration.

LABOUR DISPUTE

STRIKE OF HOSIERY WORKERS IN SCHOFIELD
PLANT AT OSHAWA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Labour arising out of a telegram received this morning from the national secretary of the Canadian Hosiery Workers' Union at Oshawa. I have no intention of reading the telegram; it is lengthy and the minister already has a copy of it. I would refer him particularly, however, to the reference in the telegram to a statement made by Mr. Ainsborough, that the department would forbid the company from paying higher wages than the previous rates. May I ask what action is contemplated by the department with relation to this dispute in Oshawa to have the conciliation machinery put in operation for the purposes for which it was established.

Hon. N. A. McLARTY (Minister of Labour): The hon. member for Cape Breton South (Mr. Gillis), as he has said, sent me a copy of the wire he had received. The conciliation service of the Department of Labour has already been engaged in ironing out the difficulties which apparently have arisen and I was advised that all the difficulties had been ironed out as a result of conferences except the one with respect to wages. The company asked for a few days to consider what they should do with a view to meeting the wishes of the employees in that regard, but yesterday morning, without any warning and without any application for a board, approximately eighty employees went out on strike. The Department of Labour has, of course, a definite duty. I understand that there are certain war orders in this plant; consequently it would come under the Industrial Disputes Act and the order in council passed extending it. We notified the secretary of the association that the strike was illegal, and that unless the employees returned to work and put themselves within the law the department had the definite duty to see that the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act were carried out, and that this will be done.

So far as the statement made by Mr. Ainsborough is concerned, I have no information whatsoever on that point. I doubt, however, if he would make the statement that the Department of Labour would not allow the company to increase wages.

[Mr. McLarty.]

Mr. GILLIS: But if that statement is true, there is a possibility that it precipitated the situation that now exists in Oshawa.

Mr. McLARTY: I do not suppose we should discuss the matter further now. My information is that the company had asked for a few days to consider the matter and that before the expiration of that time eighty employees simply went out on strike.

Mr. GILLIS: The telegram states that the company had refused to consider the question.

CANADIAN NAVAL COLLEGE

INQUIRY WITH RESPECT TO ESTABLISHMENT ON
THE ATLANTIC COAST

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. C. BLACK (Cumberland): Is it the intention of the government to establish a naval college at Halifax or elsewhere on the Atlantic coast? I regret that the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services is not in his seat. I sent him notice of my question before the house opened. Perhaps he will give the information later.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Fournier (Hull) in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

422. Special. To provide for payments on reduction in wheat acreages, under conditions prescribed by the governor in council, for administration expenses in connection therewith, and for temporary appointments that may be required notwithstanding anything contained in the Civil Service Act, \$35,000,000.

Mr. GARDINER: Mr. Chairman, last night when the committee rose, I had agreed to take the suggestions of members of the committee back for consideration. I presented them to the government to-day and I have before me at the moment the results of our consideration of the regulations. I had hoped that as a result of the understanding yesterday we would go on with a further discussion of the item which has just been read from the chair, but I understand that some members of the opposition desire this afternoon to discuss the motion of the hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Senn) rather than this item. It has been agreed, however, that I should at least place before the committee the record of the changes which we propose to make in the regulations. I had hoped that, within the next half hour or so, copies of the regulations would be on the desks of all the members and that I would be able at that time to read into *Hansard* the completed regulations so that they would