

Inquiries of the Ministry

a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance under whose jurisdiction the operations of the Canadian wheat board fall. Has he made representations to the Minister of Labour on behalf of the farmers of Canada, urging him to do everything possible to settle this dispute so that Canadian grain can reach its destination before the end of the crop year?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure the Minister of Labour is as sensitive to the needs of the western farmers as any member of this house.

[Later:]

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. A few moments ago I stated that I hoped the conciliation board which is working on the problems involved in the waterfront strike in Montreal would be sitting at about 2.30 this afternoon. I have just been advised that the meeting will be held at 4.30 because the learned jurist, who was good enough to accept this responsible appointment on short notice, had a commitment in the courts at 2.30 which had to be dealt with at that time. He has been working on this problem and was prepared to work over the week end. In any event, the conciliation board will reconvene at about 4.30 rather than at about 2.30 this afternoon.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**PROTESTS RESPECTING ACTIONS IN B.C. LABOUR DISPUTE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary or related question I should like to direct to the Minister of Labour. Has he received any protests from the longshoremen on the west coast, who are on strike, in respect of the actions of the R.C.M.P.; and will the minister tell us what role is being played by the R.C.M.P. in this dispute?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure, however, whether the minister received the messages to which the hon. member for Ontario has referred in his capacity as Minister of Labour or as the member of parliament for a Vancouver riding.

As most members of this house know, although a great many people in Canada do not, except in the major cities, in western Canada police work is done by the R.C.M.P., but the police work in the large municipality

[Mr. Rapp.]

of Burnaby, which has a population of something over 100,000, is done under contract by the R.C.M.P., so that in effect the force is the local police force in that community. When disturbances arose it was only to be expected that the authorities would turn to that force for law enforcement and that is what has happened in British Columbia.

I was pleased to learn this morning that the attorney general of British Columbia has taken a special interest in the efforts to reach a settlement of this dispute in Burnaby. It has been a most unfortunate one resulting in far too much violence. In any event, the R.C.M.P. has been doing its duty as the local police force rather than as a national one. I thank the hon. member for his question because it has given me an opportunity to explain this to the people of Canada.

SPORTS**HOCKEY—RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR LEAGUES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, as an old sporting man I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the national interest in professional and amateur hockey, has the minister any information to give the house in respect of the proposed study of the relationship between professional and amateur leagues, which is reported as being undertaken by a committee of the fitness council?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt very much whether this question is of an urgent nature, and with respect I suggest the hon. member might place it on the order paper.

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege in relation to the subject of fitness and sport, and draw the attention of hon. members of this house to the fact that the University of British Columbia rugby team, which is presently touring eastern Canada, is at this time in the gallery.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

[Translation]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**QUEBEC—R.O.T.P. SERVICE BY STUDENT PRESIDENT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Associate