

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

IMMIGRATION**ST. ANDREW'S DAY—ENCOURAGEMENT TO SCOTSMEN TO COME TO CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. N. Ormiston (Melville): I have a question which I should like to direct to the Prime Minister. I should like to take the liberty of reminding the right hon. gentleman that this is November 30, a day dear to the hearts of Scotsmen everywhere. In view of the statement made by the Minister of Immigration and Manpower that in order better to resist the tremendous American influence, French leaders should try to direct their compatriots to Canada, may I suggest to the Prime Minister that if he would direct his attention to the encouragement of immigration from Scotland the problem of American domination would never arise?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I cannot think of a more appropriate question on this day, nor can I think of a better way of strengthening this country in every way than by increasing immigration from Scotland. As this is St. Andrew's day I had thought of asking the Minister of National Health and Welfare to say a few words in Gaelic. But perhaps that would be out of order.

LABOUR RELATIONS**PACIFIC COAST LONGSHOREMEN DISPUTE—FEDERAL MEDIATION**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour concerning the longshoremen issue and the situation on the west coast. I want to ask him whether he has anything to report, and what efforts are being made by the federal mediation service to bring about a settlement.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): In reply to that question I do not think I can do better than to read a telegram that I dispatched to the general manager of British Columbia Tree Fruits Limited shortly before the house opened this afternoon. It reads as follows:

In reply to your telegrams 29th to the Prime Minister and to me I assure you that the government appreciates that the British Columbia Longshore dispute is causing financial losses and serious hardships. Unfortunately the basic situation involves the union organization of managerial personnel and such personnel is excluded from the rights and consequently the obligations under our labour legislation.

I might interject that this was a decision of the Canada Labour Relations Board.

Subsidiary manifestations of the dispute are now before courts and consequently intervention inadvisable at this time.

Your strong representations will receive my continuing attention but you should also bring them to the attention of the union and employers involved in the situation.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the city council of Vancouver has asked the minister to intervene in this matter. In view of the fact that the matter which is before the court has to do with damages and not with a lockout, will the minister undertake to comply with the request of the Vancouver city council to intervene in order to bring this lockout to an end?

Mr. Nicholson: Yesterday I stated in the house that the employers concerned, and certainly the Minister of Labour, have had advice to the effect that this matter does not involve a lockout. It certainly is not a lockout according to the information I have received. Therefore I fail to see how the Minister of Labour can be expected to interject himself into this matter when the matter is one which is before the court at this time.

With regard to the first part of the hon. member's question as to whether or not I have received a communication from the mayor of the city of Vancouver, I can only say that such a wire has been delivered to me within the last five minutes since I came into the chamber, and I have not had an opportunity to consider it.

Mr. Douglas: The minister has said that he is basing his conclusion on information given him. Did he receive this information from the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association, or has he had officials look into what certainly is a lockout, on the basis of what is reported in the press?

Mr. Nicholson: Not only have I had reports from my officials, but I also have had conversations with both sides in respect of this dispute.

UNITED NATIONS**U.A.R.-ISRAELI CONFLICT—ROLE OF CANADIAN TROOPS IN PEACE KEEPING FORCE**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I join in welcoming