

*Inquiries of the Ministry***UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****KENT COUNTY, N.B.—SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS TO WOODS WORKERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Guy Crossman (Kent (N.B.)): Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of Labour now in a position to answer my question of Tuesday, February 28, concerning the urgent matter of unemployment insurance for the woodsmen in Kent county, New Brunswick?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): I shall be glad to do so, Mr. Speaker, based on the preliminary report that I have received. Actually, in accordance with the normal procedures this matter has come before the Unemployment Insurance Commission. With respect to the 200-odd employees mentioned the other day, some qualified for benefits, some were disqualified and some have been reinstated. Others, not reinstated, have appealed to the board of referees. This matter is being dealt with in the normal way. I hope that when it has been disposed of my hon. friend's constituents will have nothing to complain about.

HIGHWAY SAFETY**CONSULTATION WITH PROVINCES RESPECTING FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF AUTOMOBILE CONSTRUCTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Grafftey: I am afraid there is serious doubt whether Canada is ready for me yet.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Grafftey: In view of the startling revolution—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Grafftey: In view of the startling revelations yesterday—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Grafftey: In view of the startling revelations yesterday by auto union workers relating to safety inspection cutbacks and the production of unsafe cars, and in view of the deplorable rise in highway deaths and injuries reported for 1966 as compared with 1965, could the Minister of Industry report progress in his consultations with the provinces with [Mr. Speaker.]

regard to bringing the building of motor vehicles within the scope of federal law?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Our discussions with the provinces are continuing toward a useful end. I do not wish to try to deal with them in detail at this time. I may say I do not share the hon. gentleman's doubt as to Canada's readiness for him.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**INQUIRY AS TO ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION THIS SESSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Now that all the herring fleets have left for open water I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he can inform the house how many more items of business we can expect to be placed on the order paper in the current session.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): It is hard to say how many there may be in addition to those now on the order paper. I think if we manage to dispose of those on the order paper we shall have done a good job, and then perhaps we can consider prorogation. This includes, of course, the defence bill.

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): Is the Prime Minister able to tell us whether the government has decided to introduce legislation setting up a department of consumer affairs? If so, may this legislation be expected during the present session?

Mr. Pearson: This matter is under consideration at the present time, and as soon as a decision has been reached I shall be glad to make an announcement in the house.

FINANCE**REPORTED SPEECH BY FORESTRY MINISTER RESPECTING FOREIGN OWNERSHIP**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I would direct a question to the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development, having before me the speech he delivered yesterday in rebuttal of the economic theories regarding foreign ownership held by the former minister of finance. In view of the fact that the former minister of finance, now Minister without Portfolio, is head of the economic task force or flying squad set up in this connection, do the views expressed yesterday by the hon. gentleman indicate a