

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Argue: May I ask a further supplementary question. In the absence of the Prime Minister, would the Minister of Agriculture make inquiries to ascertain whether or not three communications have been received from the Saskatchewan and interprovincial farmers' union council on this question, and ascertain why the government has not replied to them?

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): May I ask a supplementary question. Is the Minister of Agriculture aware that the Prime Minister acknowledged on June 9 that he had received a request from the western liaison committee for a meeting with the government, and promised a reply at a very early date?

Mr. Harkness: As I indicated on several occasions, and as the Prime Minister also indicated, we received on May 10, I think it was, a brief from the western liaison committee. The hon. member for Assiniboia asked about communications from the Saskatchewan farm union.

Mr. Argue: And the interprovincial farm union.

takes it as such. I have received representations from meat inspectors in the city of Montreal who complain that while they have received increases in accordance with the recommendations of the civil service commission, none the less they have been required to work overtime for a considerable period of time and notwithstanding this fact—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I wonder whether the hon. member has risen in order to give information or to get it. If he has a question I suggest that he put it.

Mr. Chevrier: The question is urgent, Mr. Speaker, for the reasons I was about to give. The question must be prefaced by some information, otherwise I am afraid Your Honour would rule it out of order. However, I feel that, if Your Honour will allow me to do so, I should put the basis for the question. The basis is this. I think the overtime is paid by the packing houses to the Receiver General, and these men have not received pay for their overtime work for the last three months. Will the minister be good enough to inquire into the situation and let me know why this condition exists?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge as to whether the alleged information provided by the hon. member for Laurier is correct, but I shall be glad to inquire into the situation.

Mr. Chevrier: Thank you.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REPORTED CIRCULATION OF COUNTERFEIT BILLS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. P. Deschatelets (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): I should like to ask the Minister of Justice whether he has any report to make following a question I asked on Saturday, while he was in Washington, with regard to counterfeit \$10 bills which are freely circulating in many areas of this country. Is the minister in a position to let us know whether he has a report on this matter from his department, and what steps are being taken to protect the public?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): My parliamentary secretary, the hon. member for Saint John-Albert (Mr. Bell), brought the hon. member's question to my attention on my return. I am advised that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police were asked about this matter, but it was still under investigation, and they were not able to let me have a full report yet.

PUBLIC SERVICE

MONTREAL—COMPLAINT OF MEAT INSPECTORS WITH RESPECT TO OVERTIME PAY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): May I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. I have not given him notice of this question, and I will have no objections if he

TRANSPORT

YARMOUTH-BAR HARBOR FERRY—PROPOSED STRIKE OF CREW AND PERSONNEL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. J. Robichaud (Gloucester): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is the minister in a position to advise the house what action is being taken by his department to prevent a proposed strike of crew and personnel on the Yarmouth-Bar Harbor ferry?

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): This is a matter which comes under the jurisdiction of the Canadian National Railways. I have been in touch with the railways this morning asking them to give me a report on the matter. I have not as yet received one.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION

REPORTED FAILURE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SALE OF PLANES TO U.S.

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): I should like to direct a question to the Associate Minister