

*Inquiries of the Ministry***LABOUR CONDITIONS****FALCONBRIDGE NICKEL—PROPOSED LAY-OFF
OF EMPLOYEES**

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Real Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour.

Could the minister tell the house whether there have been any changes in the lay-off at the Falconbridge nickel mine.

[Text]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, this matter of course is one for the authorities operating the mine. As I have stated in the house, the employees have made proposals with respect to the sharing of future employment at this particular mine. The federal government told the employees that the unemployment insurance commission was prepared to co-operate with that aspect of the proposal which involved federal activity.

My colleague the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys has been directly in touch with the management of the mine, and I myself have directed inquiries to the mine expressing concern at the prospective lay-offs and assuring that we were ready to co-operate in the proposal made by the employees.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the number of personnel involved who are purchasing houses under the National Housing Act, could the minister give his assurance that a moratorium will be declared on payments and that no foreclosure actions will be brought against these people who are purchasing homes under N.H.A.?

Hon. J. R. Garland (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to take notice of the hon. member's question.

FISHERIES**BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE TO FISHERMEN**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. Has the minister arrived at any decision with respect to the request for emergency financial assistance to B.C. fishermen who are facing extreme hardship because of the very stringent closure regulations imposed this fall?

[Mr. Pearson.]

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the last part of the hon. member's question I must say that the extreme hardship facing some of the B.C. fishermen is not entirely due to very stringent closure regulations imposed this fall, as the best part of the fishing season was lost through voluntary restraint by the fishermen concerned. The closure regulations referred to were essential for the conservation of our salmon resources on the west coast.

With respect to emergency financial assistance, I must state that there are no existing provisions within the department for such assistance, and therefore I cannot give an affirmative reply to the hon. member's question.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): As a supplementary question, I would like to ask the minister if he recalls that both during 1962 and earlier this year, 1963, it was the contention, by way of a promise of his party, that everything possible would be done to assist fishermen to obtain full time employment by dredging of streams, rehabilitation of salmon spawning waters, the building of harbours, breakwaters and the like; and whether the minister has forgotten this particular promise.

Mr. Robichaud: No, I have not forgotten such a promise, and everything is being done to help the fishermen from coast to coast. It is not our fault that they did not fish.

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): I would like to ask the Minister of Fisheries whether he is aware of the fact that those who were fishing during the period of the strike, those not on strike, had smaller catches than average.

Mr. Robichaud: Yes, it is true the catch was not comparable to the 1962 catch, but the fact remains that during the best part of the fishing season all fishermen on the B.C. coast were on strike, although some started to fish a little earlier than others.

**CANADIAN BROADCASTING
CORPORATION****INQUIRY AS TO INCREASE IN SALARY OF PRESIDENT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Temisamingue): I have a question for the Secretary of State. In view of the widespread report that there has been an increase of from \$20,000 to \$35,000 or more in the salary of the president of the C.B.C., Mr. Ouimet, will the minister state whether in fact his salary has been increased recently, and if so by how much?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State): The answer is no.