

Inquiries of the Ministry

If so, has the hon. gentleman anything he would care to add to the statement he made yesterday?

Hon. George C. Marler (Minister of Transport): I may say that we have received none of the complaints to which the hon. member has alluded. If complaints are made by responsible individuals, we shall be glad to investigate them.

ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES**INQUIRY AS TO SETTING UP OF CANADA COUNCIL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. Knight (Saskatoon): I should like to address to the Prime Minister a question of which I think he will not require notice. Has the government decided upon the setting up of the Canada Council as envisaged by the Massey report? If so, what progress has been made in that direction?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): The government has not yet decided the question referred to by my hon. friend.

WATER POLLUTION**NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER—CONFERENCES BETWEEN DOMINION AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. In view of the fact that the pollution of the North Saskatchewan river is again at full height, is the minister in a position to advise what happened during the conferences between the dominion government and the provincial governments of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba and also whether the people living on the North Saskatchewan river can expect any legislation at this session to make it an offence to cause wrongful pollution of interprovincial streams?

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): With regard to the first part of my hon. friend's question the answer is yes. With regard to the second part, no decision has been reached as regards such legislation at this session.

LABOUR CONDITIONS**RIGHT OF RAILWAY WORKERS TO STRIKE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Has the minister been made aware of the concern felt

[Mr. Fulton.]

by the railway workers of Canada over the loss of their right to strike? Is the government taking steps either to assure these workers that they still have that right or to establish a satisfactory alternative?

Hon. Milton F. Gregg (Minister of Labour): This question, I think, divides itself into two parts. In the first place the Minister of Labour has been made aware of the concern which would be felt by the non-operating unions of the railways in the event they were deprived of the right to strike. In the second place I am sure my hon. friend has noted that the general conference committee of the non-operating unions of the railways have been meeting in Montreal recently and are discussing questions directly related to the second part of his question. In due course the Minister of Labour would expect to be told about the conclusions reached at these discussions and I do not think that in the meantime the Minister of Labour should anticipate these reports.

WATER RESOURCES**REPORTED CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ON ARROW LAKES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Has any minister of the government of British Columbia informed the minister, or any minister of the government of Canada, of the details of the proposed agreement between the government of British Columbia and the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation for the construction of a dam on the Arrow lakes?

Hon. Jean Lesage (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): I wish to thank the hon. member for having given me notice of his question. As far as I am concerned, the answer is in the negative. As for my colleagues, I have inquired and as far as I can ascertain the answer is also in the negative.

Mr. Herridge: Can the minister tell the house if the Canadian section of the international joint commission has received any information as to the details of this proposed agreement?

Mr. Lesage: According to my information the chairman of the Canadian section of the international joint commission, General McNaughton, received a telegram dated September 17, 1954, from Mr. Sommers, minister