

Inquiries of the Ministry

member countries think along the same lines as we do.

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, can the Prime Minister indicate whether the Minister of National Defence will, before introducing his plan to reduce our contribution to NATO, consult with each member country, in order to learn their opinion about Canada's decision?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the Brussels talks is precisely to get the ministers of the NATO member countries together to discuss that problem.

[*English*]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

FUNCTION AND ORGANIZATION OF CABINET SECRETARIAT

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I had hoped to be able to question the Minister of Transport, but he is not here so I am going to ask the Prime Minister to elucidate on his reply of yesterday with regard to the changes in the secretariat of the Privy Council. I ask whether these new assistant secretaries who are dealing with planning and operational matters in the Privy Council office will be available for examination before respective standing committees of the house, in view of the fact that they seem to be taking over functions of deputy ministers and other directors of departments.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

PROTECTION OF CANADIAN CONSUMERS FROM TIRE FAILURE

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the attention of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. I ask whether, in view of the results of tests on tires in the United States, recently released by the United States government, in which it was found that 18 per cent of the tires tested failed to meet safety requirements, the minister would consult with his colleague the Minister of Transport in order to assure us that Canadian consumers will have safety in respect of tires.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this question should properly be directed to the Minister of Transport, whose ministerial responsibility includes this area. The Minister of Transport will be in the house tomorrow. I will, of course, as always, consult with him when it is a question involving consumers.

[*Mr. Trudeau.*]

[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

DAIRYING—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

In view of the increasing and general discontent among Quebec farmers about the quotas on industrial milk, would the minister indicate whether his department intends to review its policy, so that all dairy producers may take advantage of the subsidies, and so that the penalty for production in excess of quotas may be eliminated?

Mr. Speaker: I take the liberty of pointing out to the hon. member that this question was asked yesterday.

[*English*]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

ZONING OF POSTAL ADDRESSES IN LARGE CENTRES

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Postmaster General. It is in reference to a developing fiasco like unto that concerning passports. Can the minister advise what is now the status of three-digit zones in Toronto and other large centres, in the light of the recently announced freeze on this system and the study of yet another zoning plan?

Mr. Speaker: Here again I have the impression that this question was asked yesterday.

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

INQUIRY AS TO EXTERMINATION OF RATS

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. I ask him whether prior to the opening of the \$46 million Arts Centre it will be necessary to call for exterminators to get rid of the rats.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubts whether this is a question which qualifies for consideration by the house at this time.

An hon. Member: The place is overrun with them.