

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm wants to ask me a question about a distinctive flag for Canada, I shall allow him to do so later.

Mr. Pigeon: It is about the Queen.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Would the hon. member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm please resume his seat? Would the hon. member for Lotbinière do likewise? I must remind hon. members that during this debate, the length of their remarks is strictly limited. If we were to allow an extension of the speeches and the remarks made in the house either by the members who have questions to ask or by the ministers who answer them, in my opinion, we would go against the very substance of this debate.

I think that the hon. member for Lotbinière has used up the seven minutes granted to him under the provisional order and I would now ask the Minister of Industry to rise.

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, I asked for the unanimous consent of the house.

Mr. Grégoire: Granted.

Mr. Pigeon: Granted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sorry but the hon. member did not get the unanimous consent of the house.

Mr. Choquette: But nobody objects to it, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Pigeon: Only the Queen is against it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I can say to the hon. member that I hear dissenting voices near me.

Mr. Choquette: I do not think there were any, Mr. Speaker, I have the impression—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order.

Mr. Choquette: —that the acoustics are bad, because there were not any dissenting voices.

Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would ask the hon. members to resume their seats. It was suggested that the hon. member could continue if he had the unanimous consent of the house; he did not get it and I must now ask the Minister of Industry to reply to the hon. member.

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) has drawn the attention of the house to what in the view of the government is a very important question. As all hon. members are aware, a considerable number of large installations are in the

[Mr. Grégoire.]

process of being closed down by the Department of National Defence.

With a view to ensuring that the transition from national defence operations to some other useful purpose is as rapid and smooth as possible, the government has charged the area development agency, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Industry, with the responsibility of canvassing all the possibilities there might be of making effective use, in the national interest, of these installations which are being closed down.

The radar station at St. Sylvestre is one of these to which the area development agency has, since it learned the Department of National Defence was closing it down—and I add parenthetically it has not been closed yet—directed its attention to exploring the best possible uses to which it can be put.

To this end a canvass is made of all the federal government departments. Subsequently a canvass is made of all the relevant provincial government departments. Third, a canvass is made of municipal efforts or municipal organizations, and finally private industry. In the case of St. Sylvestre it has been determined to date that there is no federal government utilization that could be made of these facilities.

Discussions have been under way for some two weeks with the government of the province of Quebec with a view to canvassing the possibilities of using the radar station at St. Sylvestre for institutional or other purposes. I am glad to tell the hon. member that we have not yet exhausted all these possibilities.

Finally there does remain a possibility, which the area development agency is exploring, of making use of these facilities by private individuals, or a private organization, for recreational purposes in the general interest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have to interrupt the minister to tell him his time has expired. The hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska.

AGRICULTURE—CHEESE—ANNOUNCEMENT OF
SUPPORT POLICY

[Translation]

Mr. Clément Vincent (Nicolet-Yamaska): Mr. Speaker, last Thursday I asked the Minister of Agriculture the following question:

Mr. Vincent: Could the Minister of Agriculture tell us whether he has received a request signed by the cheese producers of central Quebec areas regarding that new policy he announced to the house on April 29 of this year? If so, has the minister any comments to make?

The new policy was announced by the Minister of Agriculture last April 29 and it