

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

It has to do with the preliminary answer given in this house last December 8. At that time I asked the Prime Minister whether the government had received a report from the ministerial committee considering the status of bargaining units and the merits of the C.N.T.U.'s grievances and whether the house could expect a statement very shortly in that respect. The right hon. Prime Minister gave the following reply on December 8:

The matter is under consideration and I hope to be able to make an announcement shortly.

Is the right hon. Prime Minister now in a position to make such an announcement before we adjourn for the Christmas recess?

[English]

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I cannot say more at this time than that this matter is still being considered. A meeting of a committee of the cabinet was held yesterday and another meeting will be held next week. I sincerely hope when we reassemble I will be able to make a more definitive statement.

**WATER RESOURCES****REPRESENTATIONS FROM CITIZENS  
COMMITTEE ON POLLUTION**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has he or his department received any report, brief or representation from a group calling itself the Canadian Citizens Committee on Pollution?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I shall make inquiries. May I observe that the committee first made representations to the province of Ontario which, generally speaking, is responsible for water pollution in that province.

**Mr. Aiken:** I have a supplementary question. Has the minister been in touch with provincial authorities to discuss financial assistance in respect of water pollution control?

**Mr. Pepin:** No, Mr. Speaker, not since the conference on pollution held at Montreal. As I already indicated, I hope the members of the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers will meet early in the year to discuss this subject. May I mention that some assistance has already been provided by the Canadian government toward anti-pollution measures through the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and income tax regulations.

[Mr. Allard.]

**CANADIAN BROADCASTING  
CORPORATION****ALLEGED INFILTRATION BY SEPARATISTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. E. Régimbal (Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes):** I have a question for the Secretary of State. A few days ago the Montreal weekly, *Dimanche Matin* published the names of employees of the C.B.C. who are active in the separatist movement in Montreal. Can the hon. lady indicate first whether she is familiar with that report, and whether any investigation has been carried out to verify the report?

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for forwarding a copy of the article, which is to the effect that there has been an infiltration in the Société de Radio Canada by a group of separatists. I am informed that some members are in effect attempting to prevent freedom of speech and association. That is detrimental to this country. Let me remind hon. members that article VIII, subsection 3 states that full-time employees may not give public support to election candidates, or themselves run as candidates.

I can only say from this that it seems to me an individual who works for the C.B.C. is entitled, as is every Canadian, to have his own personal views about the country. This is a right we all have. But he must be scrupulously careful when holding those views to keep himself completely objective, and not put them forward over the air.

**GRAIN****PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.—FAVOURABLE CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST CONCERNING ELEVATOR**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. I say at the outset that I know beneath his lean and light frame there is a very jolly disposition.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Howard:** I would like him to exhibit that jolly disposition by making a favourable announcement about the grain elevator in Prince Rupert.

**Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member has now epitomized me as the Cassius of the House of Commons, I should like to cheer his Christmas