

Inquiries of the Ministry

ber's question, I am not in a position to give a date as yet. With regard to the second part, I can say that the work I have been supervising has been directed primarily to the matter of investment.

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[Translation]

TELECOMMUNICATIONS**QUEBEC—PRESENCE OF OBSERVER AT INTELSAT CONFERENCE**

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I would first of all like to say that I hope the hon. Solicitor General will answer my question before the question period is over.

I wish to ask the right hon. Prime Minister a question.

As the Canadian government has refused to let Quebec participate in the Intelsat conference and the province has decided to send in an observer, I would like to ask the Prime Minister if the federal government will consent to let at least one observer from Quebec attend this conference?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I am not aware of the situation, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

HOUSING**NEWFOUNDLAND—USE OF INNOVATIVE METHODS TO OVERCOME SHORTAGE**

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for housing. In view of the fact that housing starts in the province of Newfoundland are down critically and that there is a great need for subsidized rental housing, are any arrangements being proposed by the province under the innovative methods program to overcome this critical shortage which is causing great hardship?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, there are ongoing meetings between CMHC and the Newfoundland housing authority, which is the provincial government, with regard to escalating the quantity of shell housing, and many other innovative approaches. I will certainly look into the specific information the hon. member has given me, or reminded me of, and see if there is any short-term action we can take in this regard.

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PUBLIC WORKS**MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS AT SEIGNORY CLUB**

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works but in his absence will direct it to his parliamentary secretary, or perhaps to somebody else who will answer on the minister's behalf. Is it true that senior officials of his department are presently holding a meeting at the Seignory

[Mr. Gray.]

Club in Montebello, Quebec, to discuss reorganization of the department and, if so, what is the necessity for holding the meeting away from Ottawa?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have some doubt whether the question as asked is in order, but if there is urgency the hon. member could give notice of his intention to raise it at the time of adjournment.

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POLLUTION**LOWER FRASER RIVER—ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, but in his absence I shall direct it to his parliamentary assistant. In view of the serious pollution problem on the Fraser River, and the minister's recent statement that this area should "go to secondary treatment at Annacis Island at once," I would ask the minister when a water quality management board, as provided for in the new Canada Water Act, will be set up on the lower Fraser River so that these problems can be dealt with without further delay?

Mr. Speaker: Apparently the hon. member can assume that the matter is being considered. For the moment, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**PROVISION OF OVERTIME PAY**

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is a hardy perennial to the Solicitor General. When may we expect a decision regarding overtime pay for members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, that is being discussed in committee with the hon. member. I am taking note of the suggestion. We are now giving it serious consideration.

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[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**PRESENT AND LONG-TERM FUNCTIONS OF CF-5 PLANES**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. On the assumption that there are now about 115 CF-5 jets in the department's inventory, can the minister say if a decision has yet been reached on what use these aircraft will be put to on a long-term basis, and also what function is being performed by the ones that are now in use attached to flying units?