

CONVERSION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
INTO CROWN CORPORATION

Motion No. 371—**Mr. Gilbert:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all studies, reviews, etc., that have been undertaken by the Government of Canada regarding the consideration being given to converting the Public Works Department into a Crown corporation.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, all studies on this subject are of a confidential nature and intended for internal use only. Therefore I ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Gilbert: Rather than say "transferred for debate" I will just say "transferred".

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is transferred for debate.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL TAX STRUCTURE
COMMITTEE REPORT

Motion No. 373—**Mr. Saltsman:**

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of the Report of the Federal-Provincial Tax Structure Committee presented to the Federal-Provincial Conference on February 16-17, 1970.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the requested report was tabled by the Prime Minister on February 18, 1970, as Sessional Paper No. 5/5. In the circumstances the hon. member may wish to withdraw the motion.

Mr. Saltsman: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF B.C. UNDERWATER
PARK

Motion No. 386—**Mr. Barnett:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the feasibility study regarding the establishment of an underwater park in the Gulf of Georgia, B.C. as mentioned by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in *Hansard* of February 13, 1970 at page 3569.

Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to the hon. member and have informed him that the English *Hansard* of February 13 erroneously quoted the minister

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as stating that a feasibility study has been started by the department. In fact, what the minister said, and this was clearly stated in the French *Hansard* of that date, is that the department was studying the matter. No feasibility study has been made. Under the circumstances, I understand that the hon. member is willing to withdraw the motion.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to withdraw the motion and when my spies tell me the feasibility study has been undertaken I will bring it up again.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining Notices of Motions stand?

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, last week I reminded the Minister of Finance that on December 17 I requested an order for copies of all letters, submissions, commentaries, memoranda, briefs, petitions, protests, grievances, papers and other documents received by the government of Canada in respect of the White Paper on Proposals for Tax Reform. I should have thought this would be an easy motion to comply with, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the Minister of Finance what progress has been made to date?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I have looked into this and a reply will be given to my hon. friend. I wonder whether he is willing to pay for the cost of copying these thousands of documents.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

TAXATION

WHITE PAPER ON REFORM—EFFECT ON CAN-
ADA-UNITED STATES TAX AGREEMENT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance whether his department or any other emanation of the government has had discussions with the United States authorities about the existing tax agreement between the two countries with a view to determining what changes would be required by the United States authorities in that agreement if the proposals incorporated in the white paper should become law?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, there has not been discussion with regard to the proposals because the proposals have not become law and we