Inquiries of the Ministry

FINANCE

REPRESENTATIONS BY AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY RESPECTING BUDGET

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Finance if it is still possible for certain sections of the automobile industry to make representations to the Minister of Finance in the course of the hearings usually held by a minister of finance prior to the introduction of the budget.

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): The door of the present Minister of Finance is always open to any good citizens who have matters of interest to lay before the government, and the fact that they come from a part of the country which is groaning under the kind of representation in this house from which they will soon be delivered is no reason why that door should not be open.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I thank the minister very much, but may I ask him what would be the latest date when these representations might be made?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): I can assure the hon, member that as far as the present government is concerned it will be far, far in the future.

Mr. Pearson: No budget?

POWER

BRITISH COLUMBIA-APPLICATION OF BILL OF RIGHTS TO EXPROPRIATION LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Because of our concern with the principles of the bill of rights and their application. I wish to ask the Minister of Justice another question. Has the minister had an opportunity to examine an amendment introduced by the government of British Columbia to the legislation whereby it expropriated the B.C. Electric Company, to determine whether the provision forbidding recourse to the courts is contrary to the bill of rights or ultra vires?

Hon, E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): The question of this legislation has been referred to me and is now under study.

PENITENTIABLES

QUEBEC-CONSTRUCTION OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. P. Deschatelets (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Would the minister say if it is true that it is the intention of the

of penal institutions in the Brome-Missisquoi riding and also in the riding of St-Hyacinthe-Bagot?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): Yes. I am glad to note the hon. member's interest in this matter, and to be able to reassure him, as I have already reassured the hon, members for the constituencies he has mentioned, that that is the intention.

Mr. Deschatelets: Is it the intention of the government to proceed with the construction of penal institutions in all the other Conservative ridings in the province of Quebec?

Mr. Fulton: We might in ordinary circumstances prefer to put them into Liberal ridings, where possibly, the need would be greater, but with respect to our construction program in Canada we are limited by the amount of finances available.

NOVA SCOTIA

SYDNEY-REPORTED PREDICTION AS TO FUTURE GROWTH

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillingate): I should like to ask the Minister of National Revenue whether in a recent speech at Sydney he made a prediction that now Britain was going into the common market. that city could look forward to being larger than Toronto.

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): I have not spoken in Sydney for two years, so I do not think I can be charged with having made any such statement there. However, I am sure this is a vision which could be substantiated some day, given time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER GREATER DISPATCH OF BUSINESS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved:

That a select committee, to be designated, be oppointed to consider with Mr. Speaker the appointed to consider with Mr. Speaker the procedure of this house for the purpose of suggesting any changes that may be desirable to assure the more expeditious dispatch of public business, and, in particular, to consider the desirability of repealing standing order no. 33 (closure rule), with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to report from time to time its findings and recommendations to the house.

Mr. Pickersgill: Is the Prime Minister going to say something?

Mr. Diefenbaker: The hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate suggested that I might have a few words to say on this motion. I government to proceed with the construction assure the house that I shall limit myself to

[Mr. Denis.]