Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, when I met Secretary Rogers I did, as the hon. member has said, raise this question and express the very serious concern not only of the Canadian government but of the Canadian Parliament and people, particularly on the west coast. He replied that the President was very well aware of these views, that indeed he had recently been to Alaska where he had encountered the views of those in Alaska who were opposed to the test. So I can assure the House that Canada's views and the views of this House are very well known to the United States administration.

Mr. Rose: Since thousands of students in Vancouver peacefully demonstrated yesterday against the horror of nuclear warfare, does the government now plan to take any further initiatives in opposition to such tests in the Aleutians or anywhere else in the world where they occur?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I think it would have been helpful if we could have had the unanimous views of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: However, I regret that an attempt was made to introduce some extraneous matters and our effort failed.

OIL

PROPOSED TAPS TANKER ROUTE—FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs somewhat related to the one asked by my colleague from Fraser Valley West. Having in mind the statement made by the United States Secretary of the Interior which would indicate the almost certainty of Alaskan oil being shipped via the north Pacific and along the British Columbia coast, with all the ecological perils that that entails, is the Secretary of State for External Affairs aware of this developing situation and is he considering any further and stronger steps in opposition to it?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Like the hon. member I have been following these developments. I am not quite certain it would be useful to follow up the representations that we have made, but I can assure the hon. member that the matter is under consideration.

INDUSTRY

PROPOSED TAKE-OVER OF SUPERTEST BY BRITISH PETROLEUM—POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. John Roberts (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Would the minister tell the House whether the

government is considering any intervention to ensure that Supertest is not taken over by British Petroleum?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, we were made aware of these negotiations from an early date and are reviewing the matter, but we have nothing more to say on the question at this time.

DRUGS

INQUIRY AS TO FINAL REPORT OF LE DAIN COMMISSION

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that one year and four months have gone by since the Le Dain commission's interim report was published, and the Minister of National Health and Welfare at that time pledged that Canada would not sign the new United Nations convention on psychotropic substances until a debate had been held on the Le Dain report, would the minister inform the House when the final report of the Le Dain commission will be published?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the latest word I had was that the Chairman of the commission has indicated that we might expect the final report some time in December.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

MORATORIUM ON INCARCERATION OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENT

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Perhaps I should direct it to the Attorney General of Canada since it is in his field. Is the minister anticipating placing a moratorium on the incarceration of people convicted of possession of marijuana or use of marijuana, particularly when the government is putting up \$100,000 to be spent by a university in conducting experiments to find out the effects of the drug on human beings?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think that answer would more appropriately come from the Minister of Justice, but I would point out to the hon. member, as he is probably aware, that the number of incarcerations resulting from charges brought against persons for possession of marijuana is very small indeed.

• (3:20 p.m.)

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Health and Welfare said the number of incarcerations is small. Let me put this to him. Has he taken into consideration the fact that by this experimentation he is really soliciting Canadians to break the law as it now stands?