HIGHWAY SAFETY

REQUEST FOR NOTICE TO AUTOMOTIVE IN-DUSTRY RESPECTING INVESTIGATORS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Before I put my question to the Minister of Industry, I hope the house will allow me briefly to thank the Prime Minister for the kind words he directed to me in the house last week relating to automobile safety. I can only say that if we have made a little bit of progress in this regard it results from the fact the government has a real appreciation of the problem, and I have received at all times nothing less than sincere co-operation from the Minister of Industry, who is treating this subject in a bipartisan way. I should like to thank the Prime Minister for his kind remarks.

My question for the Minister of Industry is the following: In view of the fact senior spokesmen for General Motors a few days ago in the United States admitted putting investigators on the trail of one Ralph Nader, an outstanding spokesman for automobile safety, and in view of Mr. Nader's allegations that these investigators named by the industry harassed his private life, will the minister serve notice on the industry in Canada of an expression of the view of the government and this house, that such behaviour on the part of the industry in this nation will not be tolerated?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): I think the house would agree that it would be highly inappropriate for this house, or indeed Canada, to comment on matters which are now I understand the subject of investigation by the United States Congress.

TELEVISION

PICTOU COUNTY, N.S.—REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE CHANNEL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Pictou): I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Has he received two telegrams containing 3,500 names of the residents of the County of Pictou, requesting that the regulations for alternative television be reviewed so that they can obtain C.T.V. coverage from Halifax? If so, can he give us any idea when the government will announce policy in this regard, after studying the Fowler Commission report?

23033-1681

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have not any doubt that I have received the telegram. I am not sure I have seen it, but, as the hon. gentleman knows, I do know about this situation. Perhaps it would be more appropriate for the hon. lady, the Secretary of State, to answer the question; but since the question was hypothetical, in perspective, I think the only answer I can give is that the government will make its announcement as soon as it has the opportunity to give the fullest consideration to the Fowler report, which we are seeking to do when we are not in this place.

Mr. MacEwan: A supplementary question. I think the minister said that he was not sure whether he had received the telegram. I understand that the C.P.R. telegram was 50 feet in length, so it must be somewhere in his office.

Mr. Pickersgill: It may be in the anteroom, because I am short of space.

POWER

COLUMBIA RIVER—SAFETY OF HIGH ARROW DAM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I take pleasure in addressing a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact that the members of the Standing Committee on External Affairs were assured that the High Arrow dam was a completely safe structure, would the minister inform the house why, in the report of the Columbia treaty permanent engineering board, which includes representatives of Canada and the United States, it is stated that the board does not accept direct or implied responsibility for the safety of the structures being built according to the Columbia River Treaty?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question should be placed on the order paper.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the minister is anxious to answer it; it is quite an important question.

INDUSTRY

HEAVY WATER—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON SECOND PLANT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. Southam (Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to