Inquiries of the Ministry INFORMATION

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF TASK FORCE

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. Has the government reached a favourable decision with regard to tabling the report of the task force on government information?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the report of the task force on government information has not yet been discussed by the cabinet.

POLLUTION

BRITISH COLUMBIA—HERBICIDAL SPRAYING ALONG BORDER WITH U.S.

Mr. Bruce Howard (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. Has any action been taken regarding the possible pollutant effect of herbicidal spraying along the Canada-United States border in British Columbia?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, I have asked my departmental officials to look into this matter and report back as soon as possible.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TRAINING OF ITALIAN AIR CADETS

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I have a question that may be answered by either the Minister of National Defence or the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the Italian government asked Canada to train Italian air cadets and, if so, has a favourable decision been reached on the request?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure of the urgency of the question. I would think it is the kind of question that would normally be placed on the order paper or considered at the time of adjournment.

[Translation]

FINANCE

BANK OF CANADA—SUGGESTED RESIGNATION OF GOVERNOR

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a further question to the Minister of Finance.

In view of the fact that the economic situation of the country is getting worse and that Mr. Baldwin (p. 10963).

[Mr. Davis.]

the Governor of the Bank of Canada can find nothing better than to increase our troubles and our problems, would the minister consider asking for his resignation?

[English]

CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY

POSITION RESPECTING ARCTIC ARCHIPELAGO, CONTINENTAL SHELF AND INTER-ISLAND WATERS

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of recent statements by the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatoon-Humboldt that there is no question of Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic Islands, the continental shelf and the spaces between the islands, could the Acting Prime Minister indicate whether this is in fact the case and whether all the problems have been resolved with respect to Canada's sovereignty? What is the situation in this respect?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am sure hon. members will agree that the complexities of international law are such that it would not be possible for me to answer this question in a short time even if I had the competence to answer it.

Mr. Burton: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Acting Prime Minister indicate whether the problems connected with Canada's sovereignty, particularly with regard to the waters between the islands, have been resolved? That was the purport of the statement of the Minister without Portfolio. Would the Acting Prime Minister deal with that aspect of the situation?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the position is that Canada has a view about Canada's sovereignty. Unfortunately it is not universally accepted.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

The house resumed, from Thursday, July 17, consideration of the motion of Mr. Blair that the third report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization presented to the house on Friday, June 20, 1969, be concurred in, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Baldwin (p. 10963).