

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

own province but throughout our country; Mr. George Britnell is a professor of economics in the University of Saskatchewan and has participated in a number of royal commissions; Mr. Gordon Cushing is executive vice president of the Canadian Labour Congress; Mr. Howland of Halifax is an economist; and Mr. Leon Ladner, a former member of this house during the period 1926 to 1930, is a businessman in addition to being a lawyer.

The details of the terms of reference of the commissioners may be of some interest to the house, and with the leave of hon. members I would like to put them on record by reading them now. The commissioners are empowered to inquire into and make recommendations concerning:

(a) the policies which will best serve the national interest in relation to the export of energy and sources of energy from Canada;

(b) the problems involved in, and the policies which ought to be applied to, the regulation of the transmission of oil and natural gas between provinces or from Canada to another country, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the regulation of prices or rates to be charged or paid, the financial structure and control of pipe line corporations in relation to the setting of proper prices or charges, and all such other matters as it is necessary to inquire into and report upon, in order to ensure the efficient and economical operation of pipe lines in the national interest;

(c) the extent of authority that might best be conferred on a national energy board to administer, subject to the control and authority of parliament, such aspects of energy policy coming within the jurisdiction of parliament, as it may be desirable to entrust to such a board, together with the character of administration and procedure that might best be established for such a board;

(d) whether, in view of its special relationship to the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation and the nature of its financing and control, any special measures need be taken in relation to Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited, in order to safeguard the interests of Canadian producers or consumers of gas; and

(e) such other related matters as the commissioners consider it necessary to include in reporting upon the powers that I have already specified.

There is a special clause in the order in council appointing a commission to ensure that the establishment of it and the conduct of its inquiries shall not in any way delay the negotiations relating to waters crossing the international boundary.

As I am sure there will be widespread interest in this matter I ask leave to table two copies of the order in council.

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Solon E. Low (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister and it is not for the purpose of giving him further exercise, because he

has had plenty today. In my judgment a very serious omission has occurred in the naming of the members of the royal commission announced by the Prime Minister today. In view of the fact that a very large percentage of Canada's known reserves of coal, gas and oil are to be found in the province of Alberta I wonder why the Prime Minister, in naming this royal commission to investigate the whole field of energy and recommend policies, did not include a member from the province of Alberta.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, we endeavoured to have representation on a regional basis and we felt that Mr. Britnell, with his knowledge of the subject, would represent not only Saskatchewan and Alberta but all the provinces of Canada. There is no omission that I know of that could have been rectified whereby all of the provinces with resources could have been included. I recognize the vast resources of Alberta and I feel that in the hands of Mr. Britnell all of the considerations that my hon. friend has in mind will receive the closest of attention from the commission.

[Later:]

EFFECT ON SALE OF URANIUM OXIDE TO WEST GERMANY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Trinity):** Does the establishment of the royal commission on energy cancel the deal of the Canadian government to sell uranium oxide to West Germany?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** The appointment of the royal commission cancels nothing.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

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

That Arza Clair Casselman, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Grenville-Dundas, be appointed deputy chairman of committees of the whole house.

**Mr. Benidickson:** Does he know about it now?

**Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf):** Does he accept now?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.