

Inquiries of the Ministry

course outlined and stand firm, rather than capitulate to intrusion in our affairs.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, as the right hon. gentleman knows, it is not inappropriate of course for the United States government to make representations about legislation that may be pending in the Canadian parliament. It is not unusual for the Canadian government to make the same sort of representations about legislation pending in the United States Congress or proposed by the United States government. I am sure the right hon. gentleman does not think that is inappropriate. I should like to say to him, however, that the government will make its decision in the Canadian interests, and I am sure this house will do likewise, without any pressure from any outside source.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the general purport of the minister's answer. But does he not remember that when we had these difficulties it was said a new day and a new dispensation would arrive for Canada, with the present government's arrival in office?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): That is true, too.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I entirely agree with what the right hon. gentleman has said.

UNITED NATIONS**U THANT—REQUEST TO ACCEPT FURTHER TERM AS SECRETARY GENERAL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask a question, but I am not sure to whom I should direct it. I had intended directing it to the Prime Minister, but perhaps I might address it to someone acting on his behalf. Could the house be advised of the success or otherwise of attempts to persuade U Thant to accept a further term as Secretary General of the United Nations organization?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary General has been asked by the Security Council to continue in this important office. He is to make a formal reply today. The Canadian government, through the Prime Minister and through myself as Secretary of State for External Affairs, has on several occasions urged him to stay on. I saw him at the United Nations last Thursday and renewed this plea. I hope his reply today will be that

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

he will remain to guide the destiny of this world organization.

AGRICULTURE**NEWFOUNDLAND—CATTLE RAISING IN BURIN PENINSULA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. Southam (Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question which I should like to direct to the Minister of Agriculture. I might say that I gave him due notice of my intention to ask this question. In view of the need to develop the agricultural industry in Newfoundland, would the minister consider continuing the cattle raising project started by western cattle ranchers and the Atlantic Development Board in the Burin peninsula as a research program of the federal government?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for giving me notice of this question. The project to which he refers has of course been discontinued. I understand that the cattle herd was taken over by the banks as collateral and disposed of. I would not regard the reactivation of this operation as being a research project. My department has for some years been engaged in research at Colinet on the use of bog lands for beef cattle. This includes work on bog drainage and grass development. In association with that, my department carries a small herd of cattle on the land, which at present is 40 head.

My impression is that the necessary research for carrying beef cattle is well in hand and that its commercial application is a development program, rather than one of research.

WATER RESOURCES**COST OF CONFERENCE ON POLLUTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. I ask this question because a number of persons have expressed concern about reports that the conference on pollution in our environment held recently in Montreal has cost the federal government millions of dollars. Would the minister mind informing the house what the total cost of this important conference was to the federal government?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is asking for statistical information which