Inquiries of the Ministry

FINANCE

POLICY TO COUNTERACT U.S. TAKE-OVERS

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the continuing incidence of take-over of Canadian firms by American concerns, will the minister undertake to make an early statement indicating whether the government has a policy to counteract this trend?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): I will consider the suggestion of my hon. friend, Mr. Speaker.

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister of Finance indicate when it is his intention to bring before the house the act establishing the Canada Development Corporation?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Soon, Mr. Speaker.

INCOME TAX

EXEMPTION FOR EXPENDITURES ON DRUGS AND OTHER MEDICAL EXPENSES

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Due to the widespread uncertainty of taxpayers, can the minister say whether the personal expenditures for drugs, appliances and medical expenses not covered by medicare payments will continue to be treated as an income tax exemption as in the past?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): I would like to consider this matter, Mr. Speaker. It is a matter that should be dealt with and will probably be dealt with in my budget speech.

POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF EXEMPTION EXTENDED TO FOREIGN TEACHERS

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have supplementary question arising out of the questions directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. My supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that there are now apparently sufficient teachers being trained in Canada to meet Canadian needs, is the minister examining and perhaps

regulations foreign teachers enjoy when they come to Canada?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this matter is covered in our tax agreements. I would think that when we have a white paper on adjustments to income tax, corporate and personal, in Canada the matter of the tax agreements will also have to be considered.

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. Would the minister, when he is undertaking this review of the income tax legislation, consider giving the same kind of tax break for the first two years to teachers trained in Canada?

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CONSULTATION WITH TEACHERS OVERSEAS BEFORE CONTRACT CHANGE

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. I ask whether he has met with representatives of the Canadian Teachers Federation with regard to their submissions concerning the agreements with teachers overseas under his department. Also, was the minister able to give them an assurance of future consultation?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I met this morning with representatives of the Canadian Teachers Federation. The meeting was short, cordial and productive. It ended with the sharing of a friendly cup of coffee between my officials and the representatives.

Mr. Lewis: Was that Irish coffee?

Mr. Whelan: Naturally.

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Before they partook of this cup of coffee I did assure them that instructions had already been given to the officials to consult with the Teachers Federation before any changes were made in the contracts.

AIR TRANSPORT

NEWFOUNDLAND-REFUSAL BY UNION TO SERVICE NORDAIR AIRCRAFT

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Transport in the absence of the minister, who I hoped would be in the house today to reply to this question considering abandoning the two year tax holi- on a matter which affects the province from day from income tax which under the present which we both come. I refer to a decision

[Mr. Trudeau.]