Inquiries of the Ministry

PROJECTED TAKEOVER OF HOME OIL BY UNITED STATES COMPANY—MEASURES TO PREVENT SALE

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): In view of the reply of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources last night to the effect that he had no authority to say to the House what the government will do in the event that the present procedures, about which he was hopeful, do not succeed, will the Prime Minister now give the House an assurance and a commitment that if the procedures now being followed do not succeed measures will be taken to prevent the sale or takeover of the Home Oil Company by the United States firm, Ashland Oil?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has stated the government's policy and its approach to this particular problem. I have nothing to add to that.

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): My question is directed to the Prime Minister. Has he given the Minister of National Revenue a deadline by which time the white paper on foreign ownership must be produced, and can he give us some idea of when that deadline might be?

Mr. Trudeau: I am not so authoritarian that I would give a minister a deadline.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Translation]

NATIONAL SECURITY

WAR MEASURES ACT—PAYMENT BY QUEBEC FOR SERVICES OF ARMED FORCES

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Considering that a National Defence spokesman has stated that the presence of the Armed Forces in Quebec following the invocation of the War Measures Act has given rise to additional expenses of \$3 to \$4 million, would the Prime Minister tell us today if his government has decided to absorb these additional expenses or if the province of Quebec will have to foot the bill?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have nothing to add to the answer I gave when this question was asked previously, except to say that the figures published are wrong; the exact figures are those given by the minister to the committee yesterday when he stated that the total would be under \$2 million.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a supplementary to the Prime Minister.

May I ask him whether the negotiations are continuing with Quebec and whether he can assure us that he will be shortly in a position to tell us who will foot the bill?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has nothing to worry about; it will come one of these days.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL AT CLINTON

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Can he say whether or not his department and the Department of Transport have come to an agreement regarding the establishment of a joint air services training school and whether that school might be located at Clinton? We were promised an answer on this matter by February 1. Has he an answer today?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Not as yet, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. McKinley: Would the minister speed up the negotiations and, if this base is not going to be used for this purpose, make it available to somebody else who might use it?

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

ACCIDENT IN FRASER CANYON RESULTING IN LOSS OF LIVES

Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport in connection with the very regrettable recent accident on the Canadian National Railways line in Fraser Canyon in which three lives were lost. Is this accident being thoroughly investigated by his department, and will the minister impress upon the CNR the desirability of increasing its safety and warning measures so that such accidents will not occur again?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have no way of knowing whether or not there is a relationship between the accident and the safety measures undertaken by the CNR. I can tell the hon. member that the usual thorough investigation is under way into this regrettable accident, and as soon as the report is available I will make it public.

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. When he is investigating will be ascertain whether or not slide detectors were evident, and at the same time will he advise the commission looking into railway mishaps generally to include this accident on their agenda?

TRADE

POSSIBLE SALE OF POTASH TO CHINA

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of recent press reports regarding