

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO LOAN FOR ARCTIC
EXPLORATION WORK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): I wish to address a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Has he received an application for a loan from a syndicate headed by J. C. Sproule and Associates Limited of Calgary for exploration work in the Canadian Arctic? I wonder whether the minister would be prepared, either now or later, to give the house a statement indicating the amount of money involved and the terms on which such a loan would be made. I am particularly interested in knowing whether the government would acquire some equity interest in the project by way of fixed net royalty should a loan be granted.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I doubt very much that this is a matter of real urgency or that the question should be allowed at this time, although the minister responsible for the matter raised by the hon. member may wish to indicate whether he proposes to make a statement on motions at some later date.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): That is so. We have not yet completed the draft regulations pertaining to this particular exploration grant. When we have done so I expect to make a statement in the house.

Mr. Douglas: Since this would be setting a precedent for other loans in the Canadian Arctic I would appreciate knowing whether the minister contemplates making a statement before the deal is completed or after the loan has been made.

Mr. Laing: I can assure the hon. member it would be before the loan is made.

[Translation]

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

HULL, QUE.—INQUIRY AS TO CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works.

For four years the Minister of Public Works, the present one as well as those who came before him, have always told us that they paid much attention to the city of Hull

Inquiries of the Ministry

with regard to the construction of federal public buildings.

Is the Minister of Public Works in a position to tell us today whether or not his department is considering the construction of new federal buildings in the city of Hull?

Mr. Speaker: The question is of a very general nature and is not in order right now.

Mr. Caouette: My question deals with the city of Hull. It is a very precise question; it does not concern Canada in general but only the city of Hull.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UGANDA—INQUIRY AS TO SAFETY OF
CANADIANS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): My question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It relates to Uganda where the situation has reached the point of civil war. Can the minister reassure us as to the safety of Canadians there, and does he have any further comments to make on the situation?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): As the hon. member knows, there has been a serious disturbance in Uganda. The situation there has, however, been fully covered by the news media in this country. I cannot add anything at this stage to what has already been reported. There are some 300 Canadians in Uganda. I have no reason to believe that their safety is in any way prejudiced at the moment as a result of this situation. We are following events closely.

RETIREMENT OF CANADIAN MINISTER
TO GREECE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether Mr. Barrette, the Canadian ambassador in Athens, has been relieved of his post by order of the minister or of the government.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): In answer to this question I would say that about a year ago, on June 8 last, Mr. Barrette informed the undersecretary of state for external affairs of his intention to publish a book in which he would describe certain events in which he took part