

parliamentary committee, when the estimates are considered, so that the members of the said committee may have a chance to question the officers on every aspect of those agencies.

[English]

Mr. Nowlan: A supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will allow the supplementary but I have not had an opportunity until now to make my daily speech and remind hon. members that there are just a few minutes remaining before the end of the question period. We will try to get in as many questions as possible.

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): I have many supplementaries, Mr. Speaker, concerning the Film Board. However, in relation to this particular question, I should like to ask whether the Secretary of State has communicated to the chairman of the CRTC some of the displeasure expressed in Parliament about that decision, and has he ascertained from the chairman when the commission intends to apply the same policy on American influence to certain areas now covered by cablevision, let alone the CBC?

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I think it my duty, a duty I always discharge with the greatest zeal, to pass on to the chairmen of institutions coming under the purview of the Secretary of State everything hon. members ask me to, whether or not I deem those opinions useful.

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

CONSULTATIONS WITH PROVINCES RESPECTING LOWERING OF VOTING AGE

Mr. Gérald Laniel (Beauharnois): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a very important question to the Prime Minister.

Is the government prepared, before the presentation of the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections on Bill C-187, which recommends to lower the voting age to 18, to consider, possibly in conjunction with the provinces, the advisability of lowering the age of majority to 18 and of relating this privilege to that of franchise?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that a suggestion has been made to the government and that he must take it for granted that it will be considered by the minister concerned.

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES AT U.S. BASES IN NEWFOUNDLAND

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is he in a position yet to say whether the Canadian government has received any information from the United States government regarding the likely length of the active life of the United States naval base at Argentina, Newfoundland?

Mr. Hees: It is in your court, Mitch.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, neither the Minister of National Defence nor myself have as yet received any information on this.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the uncertainty surrounding the future of Canadian civilians employed at these bases and the responsibility this government has in relation thereto, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs make it his business to initiate immediately inquiries of the United States to ascertain the future status of this base and of other U.S. bases in Canada?

POLLUTION

INLAND WATER PILOT PROJECT

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs which arises from reports of a meeting of the NATO Committee on "The Challenge of Modern Society" just concluded in Brussels. Has the Canadian government decided to conduct for NATO a pilot project dealing with inland water pollution?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Not yet, Mr. Speaker. At the meeting referred to by the hon. member some Canadian experts were present. The meeting was informed that inland water pollution was a subject in which we had a special interest and that we would consider whether our experience might be relevant.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD

RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER LEVYING CHARGES FOR USE OF FILMS

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): I have a question for the Secretary of