

Inquiries of the Ministry

take measures to financially encourage the production of sugar beets in Canada and the increase of our own domestic supply?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, these matters are all under consideration. I might say that the price of sugar on the world market a year ago I believe was \$2.70 per hundred pounds, and it has now risen to over \$13 per hundred pounds. There is a serious shortage of sugar throughout the world. We have all these things under consideration, and I am sure we will have a satisfactory answer for the hon. member.

UNITED NATIONS**INQUIRY AS TO REPLACEMENT OF
CANADIAN DELEGATE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gordon H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Would the minister advise the house whether Brigadier J. H. Price has been replaced as Canadian delegate on the fifth committee of the United Nations and, if so, why?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that Brigadier Price has not accepted an invitation to act as a member of the Canadian delegation at the special assembly of the United Nations which opened on May 14 last.

POWER**COLUMBIA RIVER—INQUIRY AS TO RENEGOTIATION
OF TREATY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Prime Minister. Could the Prime Minister inform the house when he expects to commence discussions with the premier of British Columbia relating to the renegotiation of the Columbia treaty?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Very shortly indeed, I hope, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister with regard to the Columbia river treaty. Has any definite date been set for discussions with the premier of the province of British Columbia?

Mr. Pearson: No, Mr. Speaker, not yet.

Mr. Pugh: May I ask a supplementary question. Are you, sir, in correspondence with the premier so that date may be set?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, the premier of British Columbia knows our desire to get

[Mr. Danforth.]

ahead with this matter as quickly as possible. There are certain preliminary questions to be studied with the United States before discussions with the premier of British Columbia would be constructive. It is these preliminary questions which are at the present time being cleared with Washington so that we may present to the province of British Columbia, with the complete knowledge of the United States, changes that are considered desirable by this government.

Mr. Pugh: Has the subject of the discussions with the United States been put to the premier of British Columbia as yet?

Mr. Pearson: Those matters are going to be discussed with the premier of British Columbia, who, only the other day, said he was well aware of the attitude of this government toward this matter.

[Later:]

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In the event that changes are to be made in the Columbia river treaty may the house have the assurance of the Prime Minister that the treaty and any changes which are contemplated or advised will be referred to the external affairs committee of the house?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, it is the intention of the government to refer this matter as soon as possible to the external affairs committee of the house.

(Translation):

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**QUEBEC—PARTICIPATION OF R.C.M.P. IN
INVESTIGATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chevrier). Could the minister tell the house whether the R.C.M.P. is involved in the investigations currently being carried out on the activities of the F.L.Q. in the province of Quebec?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, according to our constitution the administration of justice comes under exclusive provincial and municipal jurisdiction and under the penal code it is the responsibility of the provincial and municipal authorities to carry out the necessary investigations and to make the necessary indictments.

Under the circumstances, I do not see any reason for changing this procedure.

Mr. Gregoire: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When there are troubles in the federal parks, is the R.C.M.P. supposed to