

Inquiries of the Ministry

place after 1971? Can the minister give an assurance, also, that nothing will be removed from the base—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): First, I can give the hon. member an assurance that the base will be kept in good shape and good order until we vacate it on the date the hon. member has quoted. As far as a feasibility study is concerned, it has been our experience that working with the provincial organizations, which specialize in problems of this nature, we have been quite successful. Instead of my department paying for a feasibility study, it is my suggestion that perhaps the provincial authorities who are concerned with these problems might wish to talk to us about it. They would be welcome to do so. I am sorry, but I did not hear the last part of the question.

Mr. McKinley: It is very short, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member indicates he has a short supplementary question. At the same time there are a number of other hon. members who would like to ask questions, and I suggest we have for some minutes, now, gone beyond the hour reserved for oral questions.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Government House, Ottawa
October 17, 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Right Honourable John R. Cartwright, P.C., M.C., Chief Justice of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber at 4.45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22nd, for the purpose of proroguing the First Session of the Twenty-eighth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Louis-Frémont Trudeau,
Brigadier General
Assistant Secretary to the Governor General.

PRIVILEGE

MR. McGRATH—OMISSION FROM TRANSPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I am rising on a question of privilege, Mr. [Mr. McKinley.]

Speaker. I had hoped to direct a question to the chairman of the transport committee, the hon. member for LaSalle, but since he is no longer in the House, and since I failed to catch Your Honour's eye, perhaps I could raise the matter now in the form of a question of privilege. It has to do with the 13th report of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications which was presented in the House this day. My question arises from the fact that this report does not contain the unanimous recommendation of the transport committee, which met on Monday last, October 20, in accordance with which the committee decided to recommend to the House that the House extend its order of reference to the committee, permitting it, or instructing it, to make a study of the transportation problems of the Atlantic provinces and, more particularly, of those relating to Labrador and the north shore of Quebec.

The report of the committee presented today contains only a part of that recommendation. Unfortunately, as this is the last day of the session I am not in a position to move a motion—otherwise I would do so—to refer this matter to the appropriate committee in order to find out why the instructions of the transport committee were not carried out.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): I am not familiar with the report or with its contents but I have had discussions with various members of the committee and I understand that the verbatim transcript of the committee's proceedings was not prepared in time for the committee to complete its final report. I indicated that to the extent I could give such an assurance we would establish a new order of reference in the new session in order that the subject matters referred to by the hon. member could be considered by the committee. The committee could then complete its report. I am glad to repeat this assurance, given privately, in public.

I wonder if I might suggest to Your Honour that we suspend this sitting until the call of the bell.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The house will accordingly suspend its sitting until the call of the bell at 4.45 p.m.

SITTING SUSPENDED