

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL DEFENCE**

FREEZE IN TRACKER AIRCRAFT OVERHAUL

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

An hon. Member: Macdonald has to go.

An hon. Member: Tell them to shut up.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): There is lots of time. Keep it up.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I do not know what the fuss is all about. I have not yet said a word.

Mr. Aiken: Yes, but they know what you are going to say.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): My question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. As he knows, the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East, the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants and I have been asking questions about a stop work order affecting Fairey Aviation of Canada. We have been told that the Minister of National Defence has a reply. Can he give it now?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, if I remember correctly, the question was to the effect that we had imposed a freeze on the repair of the Tracker aircraft by Fairey Aviation of Canada. The answer to the question is that there is no freeze, and that the work in hand is continuing. It is true that we have reviewed the future contract programs, but this is normal practice.

WATER RESOURCES

DIVERSION OF WATER FROM HUDSON AND JAMES BAYS—AGREEMENT WITH ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR REPORTS

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister without Portfolio in charge of resources (Mr. Lang) and it relates to a question asked previously by the hon. member for Thunder Bay concerning the diversion of waters in northern Ontario. Has the government entered into any agreement with the province of Ontario on this particular matter or has the government made any decision since the question was raised in the Committee on Resources in the month of May?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member was recognized for the purpose of asking a question. May I point out that we are running short of time.

Mr. Gilbert: My question is directed to the minister responsible for housing. In view of the fact that the minister has promised on different occasions to make a statement on the policy on urban development and public housing, will he fulfil that promise by making a statement on motions next week setting forth the government's policy in these matters?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, as sometimes occurs, there is a slight distortion in the premise on which the hon. member's question is based. I made no commitment to make a full statement on the policy regarding urban development and public housing at any given time. What I said was that I would be meeting the officials of the provinces to establish new criteria for public housing, and that I would do my best to deal with the urban renewal projects as soon as possible. That date of decision is getting closer every day that goes by.

INDUSTRY

DEVCO—COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MINERS

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. I wish to ask him whether he and his government endorse the compulsory retirement at the age of 60 of Devco employees?

Mr. Speaker, I have a further question for the Prime Minister. I do not wish to rush him but I want to ask him whether he cares to carry out the promise which he made on April 14 to answer the question which I put to him.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question and, as he knows, if there is no reply given to it or if he is unsatisfied with the reply, there is not much that he or the Chair can do about it.

Mr. MacInnis: I wish to give the Prime Minister one more chance, and ask him whether he accepts the remarks made by his own Minister of Regional Economic Expansion in which he admits there is discrimination by Devco against Cape Breton miners? What is he going to do about it in his "just society"?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.