

*Inquiries of the Ministry***PUBLIC SERVICE****CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION—INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): Would the Prime Minister inform the house when he proposes to appoint a chairman of the civil service commission?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): I am hoping, Mr. Speaker, that an appointment will be made very soon.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION**VANCOUVER—INQUIRY AS TO ERECTION OF NEW BUILDING**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Douglas Jung (Vancouver Centre): May I direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. As the minister is doubtless aware, the C.B.C. radio and T.V. studios in Vancouver are at present situated in three different locations. With a view to increasing administrative efficiency and reducing production costs, as well as to create employment, would the minister advise whether the C.B.C. has given, or will give, consideration to the erection in Vancouver of a building which would house all the radio and T.V. facilities of the C.B.C.?

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): The hon. member was good enough to speak to me about this last week, so I was able to make inquiry of the C.B.C. The answer is that there is undoubtedly a need for the centralization of activities in Vancouver. However, the same need exists in other cities, notably in Toronto and Montreal. In view of these circumstances, some time ago the corporation acquired some land for the purpose of constructing buildings some time in the future. There are no immediate plans for carrying out such construction at this time.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Does the minister know if the C.B.C. presently hold lands in Toronto upon which it intends to build a central building in the near future?

Mr. Nowlan: The C.B.C. owns land in Toronto and it also leases several properties, as the hon. member knows; I think some 20 in all. However, the C.B.C. has not acquired any land for the immediate purpose of further construction.

TRADE**SALT FISH—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON MARKETING**

On the orders of the day:

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillingate): I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Speaker, if he would endeavour to make a statement on salt fish marketing tomorrow in order to give hon. members an opportunity to study it in case they should wish to raise questions about this matter which is so important to the east coast.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

URANIUM—ALLEGED PURCHASE BY JAPAN FROM SOUTH AFRICA

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): A week ago last Thursday I asked the Minister of Trade and Commerce a question about the reported sale of six tons of uranium oxide by South Africa to Japan without a bilateral agreement. He said he would look into the matter.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I said in reply to the question at that time that I had no evidence that South Africa had sold uranium to Japan. Subsequently information reached us that this was done. I am not just sure what the quantity is—oh, it is 6½ tons of uranium oxide which were exported from South Africa to Japan, and a guarantee was given by Japan that the uranium oxide would only be used for peaceful purposes.

Mr. Pearson: I also asked the minister on the previous occasion whether the policy being followed by certain uranium exporters in this matter, that is of selling without bilateral agreements, will affect the policy of the Canadian government in selling any uranium only within such bilateral agreement.

Mr. Churchill: We have this matter under serious consideration, but we are working closely with the international agency that is concerned with atomic energy and the sale of uranium. The question of setting up safeguards is closely linked to the bilateral agreements between uranium producers and those who require that metal. At the moment we are holding to the bilateral agreements with the necessary safeguards.

PRIVATE BILLS

On the order:

March 19—House in committee on Bill S-11, an act to incorporate the Evangelical Mennonite Conference. (Without amendment)—Mr. Jorgenson.

Mr. R. J. McCleave (Halifax): In view of the absence of the sponsor of this bill, Mr. Speaker, I would move that it be referred