

Inquiries of the Ministry

result of the extremely low level of the Peace river which has been caused by the improvident arrangement this government—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Baldwin:—made with the province of British Columbia when the federal government failed to make that government pass the necessary legislation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

AIR CANADA**INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Since item No. 24 on today's order paper gives Air Canada the right to enter the capital market and sell its own securities, and since this underlines the need for having as president of that air line a man of great ability in air transport matters, is the minister now in a position to advise the house when we may expect the announcement of the appointment of such a man?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to draw the hon. member's question to the attention of the board.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS**REPORT RESPECTING GROCERY PRICES ON PRAIRIES**

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the report of the director of investigation and research made pursuant to the Combines Investigation Act that the Batten report contains no convincing evidence of excessive grocery prices on the prairies and that consequently no prosecution is warranted, and in view of the director's further finding that a few of the largest grocery chains have a degree of economic power—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Will the hon. member kindly put her question.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I am putting it as shortly as I can, but there is no use putting a question unless you know what it is about so I will go straight on—in some regions, which calls for vigilance by the public authorities, what measures is

[Mr. Baldwin.]

the branch or department taking to deal with this situation?

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member that the question is very wide in scope and might be placed on the order paper. Alternatively, it might be discussed at the time of adjournment.

YUKON QUARTZ MINING ACT**REQUEST FOR INTRODUCTION OF AMENDING BILL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Three weeks ago today I asked whether he would be placing on the order paper a bill to amend the Yukon Quartz Mining Act, since some hon. members might wish to study this complex legislation. The minister said that would be done. Could he indicate to the house when it will be done, since on that previous occasion he said it would be done in two or three weeks.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I hope that I shall be able to do so within the next few weeks, but I am unable to specify the date to the hon. member.

[English]

ATOMIC ENERGY**REQUEST FOR TABELING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN FRENCH AND CANADIAN AGENCIES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Is the minister prepared to table the agreement between A.E.C.L. and the French C.E.A. on the exchange of nuclear power information? If not, what portions of the agreement are considered secret?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the government is not prepared to table the agreement, which is looked upon as a matter of internal management of A.E.C.L. with respect to the upholding of its competitive position in world markets. It is deemed that in order to maintain the efficiency and competitive position of A.E.C.L., it is in the best interest of that body to keep this agreement and similar