

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Alexander: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I wonder whether the hon. member does not feel we are anticipating to some extent the very important debate which will take place later today? Perhaps we should not have too many supplementary questions on this subject.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I think with all due respect to Your Honour that this is a very important question. I know I am perhaps treading on ground that will be discussed a little later on. If Your Honour would allow me one further question: Would the minister advise this house now whether in fact all trips that were required have now been taken? Is the acting minister in a position to give the guidelines and commitments with respect to urban renewal? Trips have been made to Vancouver and Calgary. Are there any further trips contemplated? We cannot talk about Hamilton all the time. We also have to talk about the rest of the country.

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. It has to do with urban renewal. A few weeks ago the Minister of Transport was in Kitchener and while there indicated that he would announce in the house the new guidelines for urban renewal. In view of the uncertainty that may prevail because of the resignation of the Minister of Transport, will the Prime Minister assure the house that a new minister will be appointed very quickly and that those guidelines will be introduced in this house as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Again it seems this is an admirable subject for a speech the hon. member might want to make this afternoon or evening.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**POSSIBLE CHANGES IN MEASURE FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS**

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): My question is directed to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Can the right hon. gentleman state whether any discussions were held with provincial officials during the Easter adjournment or since on the question of language recognition from coast to coast? Also are any changes contemplated in the bill as a result of any such discussions?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Some meetings have been held, Mr. Speaker. I cannot vouch as to the date, but they were held by the Minister of Justice with some provincial officials and premiers. The minister would have to be asked as to the dates of these meetings, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): A supplementary question. Have any discussions been held with authorities of the province of Quebec with regard to language legislation in that province involving possible conflict with the proposed federal language bill?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes. The Minister of Justice has also been meeting with the Premier of Quebec and some of his ministers on this very subject.

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): A supplementary to the Prime Minister. I ask the Prime Minister if the Minister of Justice has as yet put any amendments to the language bill before the cabinet?

Mr. Trudeau: Surely the house would not want me to break my Privy Councillor's oath, Mr. Speaker.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**SUGGESTION OF SABOTAGE IN DERAILMENT NEAR TORONTO**

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I wish to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Transport which is related to a question asked earlier this week by my colleague, the hon. member for Wellington-Grey. Has the minister taken any steps to make certain that further acts of sabotage resulting in death will not take place on the railroads? Has he given any instructions in this regard?

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): Mr. Speaker, as has been reported to the house, the train derailment which was thought to be sabotage is being investigated not only by the railway, but by the police. Every step will be taken to see that there are no opportunities to repeat acts of this kind, but you cannot stop sabotage if someone is determined to be destructive. I do not know what steps can be taken, other than the ones which are being taken by the police force.

Mr. Nesbitt: I wish to ask the minister if additional special precautions have been taken since this incident? As we all know, sometimes these incidents evoke others.