

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, December 6, 1968

The house met at 11 a.m.

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Third, fourth and fifth reports of special committee on procedure of the house—Mr. Blair.

First report of standing committee on veterans affairs—Mr. Francis.

[Translation]

Second report of standing committee on regional development—Mr. Herb Breaux (Gloucester).

[Note: Text of the foregoing reports appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.]

[English]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

MONTREAL—INQUIRY AS TO CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier) I should like to make reference to a question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Valade). In response to the question the Secretary of State indicated that the C.B.C. had signed contracts for the construction of the C.B.C. centre in Montreal. In fact the contracts have not been signed, but the C.B.C. has sought authority from the Treasury Board to sign these contracts. It had been hoped that these would be considered this week, but unfortunately we have not got around to this item. These will be considered at the next meeting of the Treasury Board.

AIR CANADA

MEETING WITH DELEGATION RESPECTING WINNIPEG MAINTENANCE BASE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Following the enlightening deliberations with a delegation from the province of Manitoba I wonder whether the Prime Minister is in a position, in the interests of

national security and based on the program of regional development, to assure the house, the country and the people of Manitoba that the Winnipeg air maintenance base will be maintained.

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, yesterday we had a meeting with this delegation led by Premier Weir. As a result of that meeting and the information that was exchanged, a cabinet committee will be meeting later today to decide government policy.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the answer the Prime Minister just gave concerning a meeting of a cabinet committee later today, will there be an announcement not later than Monday as to whether the further period of study that was suggested yesterday will be granted by the government?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I cannot state in advance what the cabinet committee will decide, but I would think that that is a reasonable request. If we think we are not in a position to make a final announcement in the next few days and that further study is needed, we will have to announce this after the cabinet committee meeting today or on Monday.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may we be assured that something will be indicated to us not later than Monday even though the Minister of Transport may not be here on Monday?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

TRADE

WHEAT—REPORTED JAPANESE REFUSAL TO ACCEPT CANADIAN GRAIN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Woolliams: I have a bit of laryngitis.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.