Inquiries of the Ministry NATIONAL DEFENCE

VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION OF ARMED FORCES LEGISLATION RESPECTING NATIONAL ANTHEM PERSONNEL WITHOUT PENALTY

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence, and I am certain he is most anxious to reply as I gave him notice of the question last Friday. Will the minister inform the House whether a decision has been reached, or is being considered, on a change in the regulations with respect to allowing members of the Armed Forces to resign voluntarily without penalties? If so, will a statement be made under motions or through the medium of a press release?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the simple answer is that we have not studied any changes in the regulations in that respect.

POLLUTION

AIR-REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the great seriousness of air pollution, as indicated by a Toronto doctor who says that over 50 per cent of the diseases suffered by people are directly traceable to air pollution, and that we have only two years to do something about it, would the minister make a statement under motions on air pollution so that the people of Canada will have some assurance that measures are being taken to meet this very serious problem?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I shall be very glad to consider that, Mr. Speaker.

MANPOWER

PROGRAM TO ASSIST FARMERS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Now that the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang) has announced a two-year holiday without pay for farmers, has his department planned a crash program for these people who will necessarily come on the labour market, or are they to get a sabbatical from his department also?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that question as notice. [Mr. Jamieson.]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport a few questions but may I direct a question to the Government House Leader. Further to the questions I asked him some weeks ago, can he indicate to the House when we might anticipate legislation dealing with the royal and national anthems?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I should indicate that we have had no additional information since I spoke to the hon. member last, which indicates that we will not be in a position to deal with this question during the current session.

[Later:]

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the government house leader. Because of the interest in this legislation, could the house leader indicate to the House first of all who is dealing with this matter, whether or not it is the government or an individual, and whether or not there are direct representations being made to the Harris and Weir families in connection with the rights to the lyrics?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, discussions are being carried on at several levels including I understand, by a representative of the government with the representatives of the families.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRILARY 25

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet may I mention the business for tomorrow. The first item will be No. 17 on the Order Paper, Bill C-133, to be followed by No. 18 on the Order Paper, Bill C-134, and the third item will be No. 56 on the Order Paper, Bill C-175.

POLLUTION

AMOUNT OF OIL NEEDED BY "MANHATTAN" TO TRAVERSE NORTHWEST PASSAGE

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a brief question to the Minister of Transport. Last week I aked him a question concerning the amount of fuel oil needed to take the tanker Manhattan through the