

Inquiries of the Ministry

between the price that the chartered banks of Canada are paying for United States dollars and the price they are charging when selling United States dollars? If so, what does he propose to do about the situation?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the particular incidents to which the hon. member alludes. I will look into the matter.

SHARED-COST PROGRAMS—CONSULTATIONS
WITH PROVINCES BY PRESIDENT OF
TREASURY BOARD

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the concern expressed at the recent dominion-provincial conference of finance ministers about shared-cost programs, and in view of the answer of the minister on February 18 in the House that the President of the Treasury Board would be consulting the provinces on these matters, can the minister inform the House whether the President of the Treasury Board did consult the provinces; if so, could the minister at his earliest convenience make a statement on the result?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, he has consulted. He again consulted the Ministers of Finance in Winnipeg and a communiqué was issued. I would be pleased to table it.

NATIONAL PARKS

BONNE BAY, NFLD.—EFFECT OF OIL EXPLORATION RIGHTS ON ACQUIREMENT OF LAND

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, we are dealing with the right part of Canada now. I direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Can he indicate whether in his negotiations with the province of Newfoundland to establish a national park in that province there has been any indication of action on the part of the provincial government to withdraw oil exploration rights held by John C. Doyle, which rights are holding up the handing over of the land necessary to establish the park?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware if Mr. Doyle or other people have the right to search for oil in this national park. Government policy is very clear in the matter: no oil exploration is to take place within the limits of national parks.

[Mr. Hales.]

[English]

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister not take the word of the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe as to the reason for the hold-up? Will the minister use his good offices to try to remove the rights held by John C. Doyle so that our regional development program may get under way as quickly as possible?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has made a submission to the minister. He has to assume it will be taken into account.

CRIMINAL CODE

ABORTION—REMOVAL OF PROVISIONS
FROM LAW

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. In view of the recent tragic and sordid deaths of two young girls, one in Hamilton and one in Montreal, as a result of illegal abortions at the hands of unqualified persons, will the minister reconsider his decision and introduce legislation to take abortion out of the Criminal Code, thus freeing qualified doctors to act in consultation with pregnant women?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I do not take second place to the hon. member in my sympathy for the tragic situations that may arise under the present law, but the position of the government has been stated by the Prime Minister and myself and that is it for the moment.

Mr. Nielsen: Is the minister not aware of the position of the western Liberals?

AIRPORTS

UPLANDS—COMPLAINTS REGARDING NOISE
FROM EXPECTED INCREASE IN JET
FLIGHTS

Mr. D. Gordon Blair (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. I have given him notice of it. Is the minister aware of the complaints and apprehensions by residents in my constituency about increased noise and disturbance arising from the enlarged jet aircraft traffic at Uplands Airport which is contemplated by his announcement of Friday last respecting changes in the regulations. If so, what steps is the minister taking to meet these complaints? Could he say, in particular, whether his