

the custom to do so. If there is nothing to the contrary I see no reason whatever for not acceding to the request.

HOUSING

SECONDARY MORTGAGE MARKET—INQUIRY AS TO SALES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. H. McMillan (Welland): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works in connection with the announcement made by the minister that the government has directed C.M.H.C. to sell mortgages held in its portfolio. Can the minister say whether any such sales have already taken place or been negotiated?

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): I will take that question as notice. Certainly none have been made under the new arrangements.

Mr. McMillan: May I ask a supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The minister said he would take the question as notice.

SECONDARY MORTGAGE MARKET—REPLY TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AS TO REGULATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): Yesterday the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam asked a question about the intention of the government to acquaint members of parliament with the new regulations. In my statement to the house on April 17 dealing with the subject of the development of a secondary mortgage market, I stated that there remain several technical and procedural matters to be resolved. These matters are presently being worked on, and shortly it will be determined whether we will require regulations to be established by order in council or whether we can establish procedures within the framework of existing legislation and regulations. The house will be informed of the details when the various matters are resolved.

TRANSPORT

MONTREAL—INQUIRY RESPECTING LETTER REFERRING TO SUBWAY PROJECT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. P. Deschatelets (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In today's edition of *La Presse* there is a reference to a letter written to the authorities of the city of Montreal by the Prime Minister in respect of a subway

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Inquiries of the Ministry

project. Would the Prime Minister let us know the contents of this letter?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): I think the best thing to do is for me to table the letter. I will do that tomorrow.

RICHELIEU WATERWAY—FORMATION OF JOINT U.S.-CANADA COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State for External Affairs): On April 14 I took as notice a question which was asked by the hon. member for Chambly-Rouville and which read as follows:

Could the minister inform the house about a press report in this morning's paper to the effect that the secretary of state of the United States is attempting to obtain the views of the Canadian government regarding the formation of a Canada-U.S. joint committee to consider the feasibility of deepening the Richelieu river?

The answer to that question is that I have seen a press report dealing with this matter which may well be the one referred to by the hon. member in his question of April 12 addressed to the Acting Minister of Transport. There has, however, been no communication this year from the United States authorities regarding the formation of a joint Canada-U.S.A. committee to study the feasibility of deepening the Richelieu river.

FINANCE

PROPOSED U.S. TAX ON COMPANY PROFITS INVESTED ABROAD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Finance based on another telephone call from a gentleman. In view of President Kennedy's reported proposal to congress today that United States companies operating abroad be no longer granted tax exemptions on profits reinvested in those countries, may I ask whether this proposal, if given effect by congress, will restrict investment in Canada and have an unfavourable effect on the expansion of the Canadian economy?

Mr. Speaker: Order. If the minister wishes to answer he may do so, but in my opinion the question is asking for information about a purely hypothetical situation which will not arise unless congress adopts the proposal.

TRADE

WHEAT—INQUIRY AS TO FURTHER SALES TO CHINA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I wonder whether the Minister of Agriculture would