

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: If I were to accept the hon. member's point of order I would have to conclude that all questions can be asked. There must still be some rule applicable to questions asked at this time. I suggest to the hon. member that surely there is a possibility of obtaining the information which he seeks in other ways than by asking a question at this time.

Mr. Nesbitt: I am sorry to belabour the point, Your Honour, but in this case the lives and safety of passengers on Canadian commercial air lines are in jeopardy, and I feel this is a proper question to be raised at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

NATIONAL PARKS**BRITISH COLUMBIA—AGREEMENT RESPECTING FIRST PARK ON PACIFIC COAST**

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I should like to ask him whether he has signed yet an agreement with the government of British Columbia for the establishment of the first national park on the western coast of Canada.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we have not yet signed this agreement but I think we will be able to sign it in a few weeks.

[*English*]

THE LATE EARL ALEXANDER OF TUNIS**CANADIAN REPRESENTATION AT FUNERAL OF FORMER GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister and ask him what arrangements have been made for Canada to be officially represented at the funeral of the former Governor General, Lord Alexander.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, final arrangements have not yet been made. We are not yet quite certain of the date of the funeral and of the arrangements which are being made in the United Kingdom.

Mr. MacLean: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the Prime Minister whether it is the intention of the

[*Mr. Nesbitt.*]

government to be represented at the funeral by one of its ministers.

Mr. Trudeau: Of course the government will be represented, but by whom is a matter which has not yet been decided.

AGRICULTURE**LABOUR FORCE FROM WEST INDIES TO ASSIST IN HARVESTING**

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. During the harvesting of the vegetable, fruit and tobacco crops in 1968 our labour force was supplemented by people from the West Indies, and this proved to be a very satisfactory arrangement for our producers. In view of this does the government intend to follow the same procedure for the 1969 season?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes, the same arrangements are in effect.

COMBINES**LUMBER—ALLEGED CURTAILMENT OF PRODUCTION TO ENHANCE PRICES**

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and ask him whether he has received a wire from the president of the regional council in Vancouver of the International Woodworkers of America complaining about the fact that the major lumber companies are deliberately curtailing production in an effort to put up prices. May I ask the minister whether he is initiating any investigation into these allegations?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I have received such a wire. Quite frankly, I find it a little difficult to believe that when the British Columbia lumber production comprises a very small part of the international lumber production, and there has been a quite unexpected decrease in home construction in the United States, any curtailment would in fact affect the price level.

However, in view of the wire that I have received, the officials of the combines branch will look into the matter and, of course, if Mr. Moore has any evidence of conspiracy or collusion that would be helpful to my officials I would appreciate it if he would send it to