

the members of the federal-provincial working committee on long distance transmission, and is being studied by that committee in conjunction with the consultants. They had a meeting here last week, for example. When this review is completed the consultants will present their final report on the stage II assessment and the committee will then be in a position to submit recommendations to the appropriate ministers of the governments concerned. Pending receipt of the technical advice of our committee, there is nothing to report other than this progress.

The second part of the question, Mr. Speaker, has to do with discussions between myself and the Ontario government regarding the inter-connection between Sudbury, Ontario and Manitoba. No such discussions have taken place, Mr. Speaker. The provinces, however, have provided their normal development proposals for use in the federal-provincial long distance transmission study, and Ontario's plans have been made a part of that study.

TRADE

TORONTO—IMPORTS OF FOREIGN GASOLINE AT DISTRESS PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys. I gave him only very brief notice of the question, so he may not have the answer ready at the moment.

Can the minister state what action will be taken in response to the urgent protest made by the Ontario retail gasoline and automotive service association on behalf of the service station industry, to the effect that the government's national oil policy was being disrupted by recent imports into Toronto harbour of three million gallons of foreign gasoline at distress prices?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Mr. Speaker, a protest has just been received by the National Energy Board a few minutes ago and they are presently investigating the matter. If the situation should be as the hon. member defines it, then it will be for the Department of National Revenue to take the necessary steps. But again, the matter is being investigated.

Inquiries of the Ministry

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

VACANCY IN SECRETARIAT OF RESOURCE MINISTERS COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Mr. Speaker, while the house is very quiet this afternoon may I answer another question which was asked by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris, who inquired whether Mr. Walter Gray, formerly public relations and information officer for the Canadian council of resource ministers, had been replaced. I have now received information to the effect that he has not yet been replaced, but I am told that Mr. Edgar Sarton is presently carrying out these duties until a replacement is found for Mr. Gray.

I have other replies, Mr. Speaker, but I will give them tomorrow.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON NEW CANCER TREATMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Can the minister advise whether he is now able to report on his investigation into the work of Doctors Mirkovich on an anti-cancer hormone made by the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, a similar question was asked the other day by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and I promised at that time that I would make a statement in reply. I will now do so in reply to the question put to me by the hon. member for Queens.

Dr. Mirkovich was in touch with the Department of National Health and Welfare early this year and also some weeks ago asking that clinical tests be conducted of this alleged cure by the Department of National Health and Welfare. The Department of National Health and Welfare does not have the clinical facilities to test any such drug, although the department does support the National Cancer Institute and provincial activities in the field of clinical testing.

With respect to the appropriate rules that must be followed under the Food and Drug Act, I should state that in order for this drug