

FINANCE

MERCANTILE BANK—POSSIBLE INCREASE IN AUTHORIZED CAPITAL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): My question is directed to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker. In view of speculation in the press today that the minister may be considering recommending to his colleagues Treasury Board action to increase the authorized capital of the Mercantile bank, can the minister assure us that if such a course of action is taken he will notify the house at once?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this is a hypothetical question. There has been no application by any bank recently for an increase in capital.

[Translation]

HIGHWAYS

QUEBEC—ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTION OF ACCESS ROADS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Chapleau): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Finance. Could he tell us if he met recently with officials of the Quebec government, with respect to a 1966-67 roads to resources program and could he also inform the house as to whether the Quebec government has requested the assistance of federal government for this roads to resources program?

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this is not within my ministerial responsibility; therefore I do not have any information. Perhaps it should be directed to another of my colleagues.

POWER

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR HUNDRED MILLION DOLLAR FEDERAL LOAN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack Davis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Finance. Has he replied to the urgent request of the premier of British Columbia for a loan of \$100 million and, if so, what is the nature of his reply?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is yes. I do not know whether

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Inquiries of the Ministry

you would permit me to read my reply or wish that I table it.

Mr. Speaker: Certainly I would prefer that the hon. minister did not read the reply. Perhaps there might be agreement that the reply should be placed on the table.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: Read it.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, I think there is general consent that the minister be allowed to read the telegram. I think he should do so.

Mr. Speaker: It has been agreed that the telegram should be tabled.

CANADIAN CENTENNIAL

SUBMISSION RESPECTING PROPOSED YOUTH SEMINAR

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of great and growing urgency for the Secretary of State. Could the Secretary of State now inform the house when the ad hoc committee that was charged with the responsibility for making plans for a parliamentary youth seminar will be called together to deal with this important matter?

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, at the request of the young people we have waded through three or four different submissions. I now have a submission which has not yet been dealt with by the centennial people. I think it will be shortly and then I shall have an opportunity to call a meeting. I think the seminar will be on a much smaller scale than that suggested in the proposals previously submitted.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO ROLE OF PROPOSED MOBILE FORCE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I should like to ask him whether the transformation of Canada's role in foreign affairs is intended to place the Secretary of State for External Affairs in the position of sponsoring a heavily armoured mobile force ready for punitive action anywhere in the world.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think the question is urgent.