

Inquiries of the Ministry

whether the Quebec delegation in Paris will have the same privileges which are granted to general consulates?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think that question is based on a statement made the other day by Mr. Lussier. I had the opportunity to read in yesterday's *Le Devoir* the report dealing with that statement by Mr. Lussier, Quebec general delegate in Paris. That matter has been under consideration for some time and our ambassador in Paris has already begun considering it with the French authorities. I hope, in the near future, to be in a position to announce that a solution consistent with the needs of the Quebec general delegation in Paris and with our excellent relations with France, was found to that problem.

[Text]

POWER**PASSAMAQUODDY—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S.**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I think this question should be directed to the Prime Minister since it covers at least two departments. It has to do with evidence given yesterday before a United States Senate committee by Secretary Udall in connection with the Passamaquoddy-Saint John river power project. According to newspaper reports this evidence is to the effect that Canadian officials should be encouraged by the new report.

Is the Prime Minister in a position to say if the government has conducted negotiations or at the present moment is engaged in consultations with the United States on this project? Has the government had the report from the committee now sitting in Washington to which reference was made by Mr. Udall? Is the government giving sympathetic consideration to this question on the basis not only of the report to congress but the examination being made by Canadian fisheries officials?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): There is at present an examination going on by Canadian officials and technicians as to the feasibility of this project. There have been no discussions with the United States on this matter recently, and there will not likely be until this examination is completed. I saw the report of Secretary Udall to which my right hon. friend refers and,

like him, I would be very much encouraged by that report if it turns out to be accurate in the light of engineering and technical examination. We are making inquiries on this report to see if we can get the evidence on which it was based.

Mr. Diefenbaker: And would the Prime Minister, having secured that report, make a statement to the house during the next few days in this regard?

Mr. Pearson: I shall be glad to make a statement, Mr. Speaker, as soon as we get that information.

EDUCATION**STUDENT LOANS—INQUIRY AS TO PARTICIPATION BY ALBERTA**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, the other day I asked the Prime Minister a question concerning some doubts that had been raised about the participation of the province of Alberta in the student loan fund, and he indicated at that time that he would be seeing the premier of the province. I understand that has happened, and I ask if he can clarify or remove these doubts with regard to this particular subject.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I did have a conference with the premier of Alberta yesterday. He did not raise this subject at all; therefore in a sense that is a clarification.

COMBINES**DELAY IN ACTION ON REPORTS OF COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Justice. My question relates not only to the recent report of the restrictive trade practices commission concerning collusion by Ontario road surfacing contractors but to the fact that there is a growing list of such reports upon which the Department of Justice has taken no action. Will the minister undertake to make a statement to the house soon concerning these several recommendations of the commission?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Yes, Mr. Speaker, subject to my mentioning now that these reports are presently under consideration to ascertain what, if any, action ought to be taken in furtherance thereof.