

work in question in this important area of policy was being done within the government for use of the cabinet. I think what this House will be looking forward to is the making of a statement by the government on its decisions in this regard. However, I can assure the House that this matter continues to be one of high priority for the government.

Mr. Gilbert: Are we going to be totally Americanized before the report is tabled?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS IN RCAF MESSES—RECOGNITION BY CANADIAN ARMED FORCES MESSES

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): In the absence of the Minister of National Defence, perhaps the acting minister can at least take my question as notice. Is it a fact, as alleged, that honorary life membership in RCAF messes, which was granted to RCAF officers on their retirement from the service, are no longer honoured by Canadian Armed Forces messes, although they are honoured by messes of the Royal Air Force, United States Air Force and Royal Australian Air Force? Will the minister take this question as notice, look into this matter and assure the House that these honorary memberships which were given to retiring officers as a commitment by the chief of the air staff will not be downgraded in any way?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to bring the representations of the hon. member to the attention of the Minister of National Defence.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO INVITATION TO PRESIDENT TITO OF YUGOSLAVIA TO VISIT CANADA

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale): I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether the federal government has invited the president of Yugoslavia to come to Canada on an official visit later this year and, if so, whether any reply has been received?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I know of no such invitation having been issued. I believe the government has no knowledge of President Tito's intention of travelling to North America. Until such intention is known, there will be no question of an invitation.

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ATOMIC ENERGY

POSSIBLE URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT—REPRESENTATIONS FROM COMPANIES AND PROVINCES

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and

24081-14

Government Organization Act, 1970

Resources. In view of the possible building of an uranium enrichment plant in Canada, is the minister inviting representations from all companies or provinces which have the potential to build such a plant?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I think such an invitation would be premature, although we have heard from more than one province, inasmuch as the technology is not yet available to Canada for uranium enrichment.

Mr. Thomson: In view of the problems we have had before in building heavy water or atomic energy plants, will the minister assure the House that any such plant will have the supervision of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited?

Mr. Greene: I am not able to do that since there is no clear policy which in turn is because of the fact there is no immediate potential for enrichment. I can assure the hon. member that the adequate government agency, be it AECL or Eldorado Nuclear Limited, would have a very important role of surveillance.

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OIL

RESEARCH ON PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH ARCTIC

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): My question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the intensive exploratory activity in the high Arctic islands and the suggestion of the hon. member for Vegreville, can the minister indicate whether specific studies or research are being done with regard to pipeline construction from the high Arctic in view of the fact there are special circumstances there, such as ice floes, which do not exist with regard to the Mackenzie valley pipeline?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to take the question as notice. I have been so preoccupied with the Mackenzie valley route that I am not current with respect to research on pipelines from the high Arctic. If the hon. member will permit, I will take the question as notice.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

• (12 noon)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION ACT, 1970

PROVISIONS RESPECTING DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION, MINISTRIES OF STATE, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES, ETC.

The House resumed, from Wednesday, February 17, consideration in committee of Bill C-207, respecting the