Inquiries of the Ministry

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

INQUIRY AS TO REPORTS BY DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the right hon. Prime Minister and ask him whether the government has recently received a report from the committee set up last June 26 as indicated by the Prime Minister at that time to make an economic investigation into the interrelation between Quebec and the rest of the country.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question of the Leader of the Opposition I would like to say I will have to look into the matter. I do not think that report has been received.

Mr. Starr: I have a supplementary question. While the Prime Minister is looking into the matter, can he also find out how many committees within the various departments are at present working on matters affecting the constitutional structure of Canada, and what reports if any are available from them?

Mr. Pearson: I will be glad to look into that. If my memory serves me right I think I did make a statement on this matter in the house last June, but I will be glad to look into the whole question.

FISHERIES

POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE BY RUSSIA OF NORTH PACIFIC SALMON TREATY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. In his discussions with the minister of fisheries of the Soviet union was the possibility of the U.S.S.R. entering into the north Pacific salmon fisheries treaty discussed, and did the Soviet union indicate willingness to join that treaty?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the matter referred to by the hon. member was discussed between the minister of fisheries of the U.S.S.R. and myself during his recent visit to Canada which concluded yesterday.

AIR TRANSPORT

SERVICE TO ATLANTIC AREA BY CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the [Mr. Haidasz.]

Minister of Transport. Will the minister take a fresh look at government policy which now prevents Canada's other major air line from serving Atlantic Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is making a submission to the minister. I do not think this can be accepted in the form of a question at this time.

Mr. McCleave: With respect, Mr. Speaker, I was not making a submission. I was asking for an answer, but I will put the matter down for ten o'clock if I do not get the answer now.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REPORTED DISCONTINUANCE OF RESERVE TRAINING AT UNIVERSITIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack A. Irvine (London): Mr. Speaker, I have been awaiting the return of the Minister of National Defence in order that I might ask him a very important question, but because of the urgency perhaps I may direct it to the right hon. Prime Minister. In order to settle the uncertainty prevailing in universities all across Canada will the Prime Minister say whether it is the intention to continue reserve army training at Canadian universities?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Acting Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as the acting minister I may take this question. A decision has been taken by the federal government which is being made known to the universities at the present time. I am not sure whether that has been completed. Just as soon as possible a public announcement will be made.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): As a supplementary question, when that announcement is made how many officers in training under the Canadian officers training corps and the regular officer training plans will be affected by the change?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question is too detailed. Perhaps I should suggest that unless the Minister of Transport is answering questions in his capacity as Acting Minister of National Defence he cannot be asked questions relating to that department.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, in order to set the record straight I wish to say that was the capacity in which I was acting.

Mr. L. M. Brand (Saskatoon): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question I would like to ask whether the Acting Minister of National