

Inquiries of the Ministry

certain areas of Laos constitutes, in the judgment of the Canadian government, a failure to fully comply with the undertaking given in the agreement of 1962.

Mr. Diefenbaker: If there had been compliance on the part of the Polish representative, what has the minister to say as to whether the present condition would be as it is?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I do not believe I can answer that, Mr. Speaker.

THE VATICAN—ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the fact that, during the week end the Knights of Columbus gathered at a convention requested that Canada appoint an ambassador to the Vatican, is it the government's intention to consider that matter so that this year an ambassador be appointed to the Vatican?

[Text]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): This matter has been under consideration during the last year, and it was under consideration for the five years previous.

Mr. Pigeon: Yes, and the flag was, too.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

QUEBEC—ADMINISTRATION OF ESKIMO AFFAIRS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

Could he tell us whether discussions are still going on between his department and Quebec authorities with a view to handing over the administration of Eskimo affairs to the Quebec government?

Could he also tell us what progress has been made in the negotiations and when will the administration of Eskimo affairs be transferred to Quebec authorities?

[Text]

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question, while very important, requires a detailed answer. May I suggest that it be put on the order paper.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, may I give notice that I wish to discuss this matter on adjournment tonight?

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[Text]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

JERICO BEACH, VANCOUVER—TRANSFER OF LAND TO CITY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arnold Webster (Vancouver-Kingsway): I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Has the minister recently conferred in Ottawa with the mayor of Vancouver regarding the early transfer to his city of land now occupied by the army at Jericho Beach? If so, what were the results of the discussions?

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest that this is a question for the order paper.

FINANCE

REPORTED INCREASE IN NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): I had a question for the Minister of Justice, but perhaps I may direct it to the Minister of Finance. My question arises from a recent release indicating that 3,678 businesses in Canada went bankrupt last year, an increase of 15 per cent. Has the minister caused inquiries to be made as to the causes for this increase in bankruptcies?

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance): I shall be glad to consult with the Minister of Justice on his return tomorrow or the next day.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

WESTVILLE, N.S.—PROPOSED REMOVAL OF STATION AGENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Pictou): I should like to ask the Minister of Transport if he has received a telegram from the mayor of the town of Westville requesting his support in connection with the proposed removal of the Canadian National agent from the station in that community, thus placing it on a caretaker basis. If so, would the minister request the board of transport commissioners to postpone such action until the legislation standing on the order paper in the name of the minister is passed by this house?

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member put this question on the order paper.

Mr. MacEwan: I give notice I wish to debate this matter at ten o'clock.

NATIONAL PARKS

INQUIRY AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): I have a question for the Minister of Northern