

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, there is an extensive study into that very subject going on now with the co-operation of communications carriers. I am glad to tell the hon. member that it is proceeding well. I will be glad to share with him the information that comes out of it when it is available.

Mr. Marshall: I wish to direct my supplementary question to the Secretary of State. In view of the fact it has been indicated that 98 per cent of all Canadians will have radio and television communication within the next two or three years, will the minister investigate the evident deliberate delays by the CBC in promised television coverage for northern Newfoundland?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I can ask the CBC and convey the answer to the hon. member.

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[English]

FINANCE

PAYMENT OF INTEREST TO CLAIMANTS OF DORMANT BANK ACCOUNTS NOW WITH BANK OF CANADA

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the announcement by the Department of Finance that the Bank of Canada will be handling the small accounts in private banks that have not been touched since 1962 and which total a little over \$1 million, can the minister inform the House whether interest on these accounts will be included for those who apply for and receive the unused money in these accounts?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member will allow me to take that question as notice and I will get back to him.

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POWER

JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON HUNTING RIGHTS OF INDIANS FOLLOWING TRANSFER OF LANDS

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, may I recall to the attention of the Minister of Justice a question I asked him about the James Bay area of Canada on March 3 in relation to aboriginal rights in the territories under the terms and conditions whereby those territories were transferred to the provinces. In view of the fact the minister said he would take this question as notice, will he take advantage of the opportunity to make a statement on this very important matter during the course of the discussion which I understand will take place either later today or tomorrow?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I am sure others of my colleagues who have direct responsibility for dealing with the substantive matters involved will be intervening in the debate. I do not think it would

Inquiries of the Ministry

be proper for me to comment on whatever legal advice may have been given to my colleagues in this connection.

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UNITED NATIONS

GOVERNMENT SUGGESTIONS RESPECTING REVISION OF CHARTER

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs with regard to the forthcoming visit of the Secretary General of the United Nations. Does the government have any suggested revisions to the United Nations charter and will these be given some publicity prior to the visit of the Secretary General? Does the minister have in mind any suggestions with regard to revision of the charter?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The subject of charter revision is now under consideration in the department. Before the time expires, I will be presenting our views on the subject to the Secretary General. The hon. member knows that the prospects of substantial charter review are almost nil because most of the great powers and most of the underdeveloped countries in the world are opposed to revisions in the charter of the kind that have often been suggested to me. However, we will be putting forward what we think are practical proposals in this direction. I do not think, however, that this will be a main subject of discussion with the Secretary General when he is here.

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WATER RESOURCES

STATEMENT BY U.S. SENATOR RESPECTING AGREEMENT BY CANADA, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO ON CONTINENTAL WATER POLICY—INQUIRY AS TO DISCUSSIONS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister, either in that capacity or in his capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of reports emanating from Washington this morning that Senator Frank Moss stated that Canada, the United States and Mexico are close to an agreement on a continental water policy, may I ask the Acting Prime Minister whether negotiations on this subject among the three countries or between two of the three countries have in fact taken place and whether the reported statement by Senator Frank Moss has any validity in negotiations or discussions among the governments?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am quite unaware of any discussions or negotiations of any kind between Canada and the United States having to do with water. I do not know what is going on between the United States and Mexico, but I can assure the hon. member that the statement he has quoted to me is completely without foundation.

Mr. Lewis: I hoped that would be the answer. May I ask the Acting Prime Minister whether he will look into the