

Inquiries of the Ministry

to ask the Minister of Finance if he would re-read the Auditor General's report over the weekend.

Mr. Benson (Minister of Finance): I have read the Auditor General's report, Mr. Speaker. I hope my hon. friend has read Mr. Rasminsky's statement.

HARBOURS

IMPLEMENTATION OF REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. On May 20 the minister answered yes when I asked if he would make a statement on motions at his earliest convenience concerning the administration of small boat harbours on the Pacific coast of British Columbia. I wonder whether his earliest convenience means that the minister can make a statement within the next few days on this important and urgent matter.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): I will do my best, Mr. Speaker. This is a complex matter. The representations made have been noted. There is a good deal of logic in what hon. members have said, and I am trying to work out something imaginative.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CANADIAN FORCES BASES REORGANIZATION PROGRAM

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Will the minister be making an announcement with respect to the reorganization program for Canadian forces bases before the adjournment of the session or at least before the end of July?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I can make an announcement before the end of this session, because I cannot foresee when it is going to end. As far as the end of July is concerned, I had a target date which was August 1. The subject is very complicated. Many departments of government are getting involved in the study of the implications of base closure. I still hope that I can meet that target date of August 1, but I am not quite so sure now.

Mr. Dinsdale: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can I take it from the minister's observations that because of the

[Mr. Baldwin.]

serious economic implications which this may have on certain regions in Canada, the whole matter has been or will be thoroughly processed with respect to the impact on regional disparity?

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Yes, Mr. Speaker. This is what I indicated when I referred to the different government departments involved in the study of each base.

CANADIAN LEGION REPRESENTATIONS ON NEWFOUNDLAND BASE

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of National Defence. Would he advise the house whether he has studied a brief from the Newfoundland command of the Canadian Legion to establish a military base in Newfoundland, and if he has made a decision—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That question is not a supplementary question.

GRAIN

SHORTAGE OF BOX CARS AT PRAIRIE POINTS—EXTENDED GRAIN YEAR

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): My question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister and it is related to the one put a few moments ago by the hon. member for Mackenzie and addressed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the dire shortage of box cars to be used in the emergency in trying to meet the deadline of July 31 in the crop year, will the Prime Minister confer with his colleague, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce on his return from Washington regarding an extension of the crop year for at least several weeks so that this emergency can be met?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will consider the matter.

HOUSING

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): I should like to preface my remarks by saying that it is very nice to see so many Liberals here today.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

An hon. Member: Explain.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.