

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Privy Council. I wonder whether, as house leader, he would consider bringing in the cash advances legislation ahead of the farm credit bill. The cash advances legislation is non-controversial and could be passed quite easily this evening; then the money would quickly be made available to the farmers.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, both bills could have been passed by this evening if hon. gentlemen opposite had agreed to the formula we discussed the other night.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think it should be made clear that publicly, in the house, this party agreed that the cash advances bill could be put through last Friday in one day. We agreed that all stages of the bill could be put through at that time.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

TELEVISIONINQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION ON
EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Secretary of State.

Can the hon. minister tell us when he will be able to introduce in the house his bill concerning school telecasts?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the introduction of the bill itself, I could not give a specific answer to the hon. member. With regard to an announcement on that subject, it will be made very soon in the house before the end of this week.

Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot): Mr. Speaker, with regard to this proposal which the hon. minister has just referred to, can he tell us whether the Quebec provincial authorities have been approached about this matter and whether the details have been discussed?

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, the project was made public more than a year ago and I do not know whether this answers the hon. member's question. A public speech has been made by an hon. minister of the province of Quebec, which seems to express the position

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

of the province on that subject. In this case it is a speech made by Mr. Masse.

Mr. Ricard: Mr. Speaker, I should like to state my question precisely. Has the government or the minister responsible been himself in communication with the Quebec authorities.

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, when I came to this department, we had passed the stage of communication and consultations. I do not know what my predecessor had done.

[English]

HIGHWAYSINQUIRY AS TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works who, according to the roster, is here today. I ask the minister whether he has any plans for a national highway building conference, in order that we can deal with the prospects of a second trans-Canada highway.

Mr. Paul Langlois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): I will take this question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

POST OFFICE ACTAMENDMENTS AFFECTING RATES,
ADMINISTRATION, SAVINGS
BANK

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-116, to amend the Post Office Act.

He said: Mr. Speaker, as I listened to hon. members during the debate on the resolution preceding the bill to amend the Post Office Act, I was impressed and pleased by the interest shown by hon. members on both sides of this house in the Post Office Department. Their interest reflects an understanding, I believe, of what the Glassco royal commission on government organization called the post office's role as a unifying force throughout the country.

The legislation before the house incorporates certain administrative changes and certain changes in rates on those classes of mail the responsibility for which rests with parliament, namely, first and second class mail. The details of those changes in rates have already been announced. At this stage I propose to give the house as much information as