Inquiries of the Ministry

OIL

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON CANADA-U.S. CONTINENTAL POLICY

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister or to the Acting Minister for Energy, Mines and Resources. Has the task force finished its report as far as the petroleum industry is concerned and, if so, is the government prepared to make a report to the house with reference to the consultations between Canada and the United States?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I am not quite sure which report the hon. member has in mind. It seems to me he is dealing with two different things. The task force concerned with northern development, in particular, has made an interim report, and this is being considered. With regard to the other matter referred to, continual reports are being received but no specific report has been made.

Mr. Woolliams: Perhaps I was a little ambiguous, Mr. Speaker. I was wondering whether the group concerned with the subject has returned from Washington, and made any deal affecting Canada and the United States as far as petroleum is concerned in connection with a new continental oil policy.

Mr. Lang: The discussions in Washington dealt with some narrow and specific matters as well as with some general issues of great importance. Talks with regard to all these aspects are continuing. There are no conclusions to report to the house at this time.

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I wonder whether the federal government and the task force in their studies of the marketing of northern oil have consulted the Alberta government, and the possible conflict of interest in connection with oil sales there.

HOUSING

VANCOUVER—STATUS OF PROJECTS PENDING GOVERNMENT POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): May I be privileged to direct a question to the acting minister responsible for housing? Can we be advised whether any or all of the proposed public housing projects in Vancouver are presently being processed, or whether all such projects are stalled pending the announcement of new government policies on low rent housing?

[Mr. Trudeau.]

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): Mr. Speaker, all public housing projects are not being stalled.

Mr. Winch: I asked the minister specifically with regard to the situation in Vancouver—projects which have been in process for many months. Have they been stalled? May I have an answer with regard to Vancouver, please?

Mr. Richardson: The Minister of Transport was in Vancouver—

An hon. Member: Who is the minister in charge of housing?

Mr. Richardson: The resignation of the Minister of Transport is effective the 30th of this month. He has visited Vancouver with particular concern for the public housing development in that city. He has made no final recommendation concerning it since his return only a few days ago.

TIMING OF PUBLICATION OF GUIDELINES

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): My supplementary question concerns the promise made by the Minister of Transport that the guidelines for public housing would be out not later than today. Can we be told when these guidelines will be made available?

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): As soon as possible, Mr. Speaker, but I cannot give an exact date.

INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN URBAN RENEWAL

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask about the guideline, but my colleague from Halifax-East Hants asked that question. And now we get into the area of urban housing about which we had a lot of dialogue from the former Minister of Transport. Can the acting minister advise this house when and if this government intends to make a statement as to whether it intends to be involved with urban renewal? If so, to what extent?

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): Mr. Speaker, the recommendations of the task force on housing have been stated many times. Many of those recommendations were brought forward by the Minister of Transport and presented to the cabinet and studied by cabinet committees. Many have been approved and legislation is in an advanced stage of drafting. This legislation will be brought forward in the very near future and will answer all questions of that kind.