

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

to bring to their attention some of the cautions that I have already brought to the attention of the premier of Saskatchewan in terms of constitutionality, in terms of feasibility and in terms of economic desirability.

The House will observe that I have been rather reticent to pronounce judgment on these matters for the simple reason that nobody knows what the package that the premier of Saskatchewan is trying to put together will consist of at the end of the day. It is, of course, very difficult to comment on it before we see what it comprises. Obviously there is a difference between prorating for the purpose of conservation and controlling exports and prices.

**Mr. Burton:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the government examining those aspects of the plan, as far as they are known to the government, that may discriminate against both Canadian producers and consumers and may result in fixed prices in Canada but no control over prices in the U.S.A.?

**Mr. Pepin:** That is the name of the game, Mr. Speaker.

**COMMUNICATIONS**METHOD OF PUBLICIZING POLICY  
STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Communications. Has the minister, in his role of Postmaster General, been advised that notice of his inauguration as Minister of Communications in respect of the audio-communicé system for radio stations on November 5 was not received by certain stations in eastern Canada by mail until November 6, the day after the blessed event? Has the minister been giving thought to the expedition of mail delivery as another technique to improve communications?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member has made a suggestion and he has to assume that it will be considered by the minister.

**VETERANS AFFAIRS**

## TRANSFER OF LANCASTER HOSPITAL

**Mr. J. Chester MacRae (York-Sunbury):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and is prompted by the many submissions that I and many other members of the House of Commons from New Brunswick are now receiving from veterans in that province. Is consideration

[Mr. Pepin.]

being given to the postponement of the transfer of the Lancaster Department of Veterans Affairs hospital to the Board of Commissioners of the Saint John General Hospital until the proposed veterans wing at the Saint John General Hospital is available to the veterans of the province?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I respectfully suggest to the hon. member that this is the type of question that should properly be discussed at the time of adjournment. I realize it is important and possibly very urgent, and if that is the case it should be discussed at the time of adjournment.

**Mr. MacRae:** Then I give such notice, Mr. Speaker.

**UNITED NATIONS**PROPOSED ADMISSION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA—ABSTENTION FROM VOTE

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Could he state to the House if Canada will abstain in the vote at the United Nations on the admission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, as has been reported?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, it is not customary for the government to state in advance the way Canada will vote, because one can never tell whether there might not be last minute developments. The vote takes place tomorrow. I shall be very happy to explain after the vote why we acted the way we did.

**Mr. Brewin:** A supplementary question. Would the minister agree that it would be quite inconsistent with Canada's policy of negotiating for recognition to abstain on this question?

**Mr. Sharp:** No, Mr. Speaker. I think our vote tomorrow will be entirely consistent with our negotiations in Stockholm.

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can the minister inform the House whether or not he is conferring with Secretary of State Rogers before making a decision?

**Mr. Sharp:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Willington):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. While the Secretary of State for External