

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I know that the hon. member is well aware of the policy which exists in respect of such incidents. That policy has not changed for a number of years, and is exactly as I suggested in reply to a similar question asked last week by the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Forrestall).

AIRPORTSVANCOUVER—REQUEST FOR PROGRESS
REPORT ON ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Has his department reached an agreement as yet with the government of British Columbia concerning access to the Vancouver international airport and, if not, can the minister report any progress?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, no agreement has been reached, but some discussions have been taking place and I believe I can say progress is being made.

INDUSTRYAUTOMOBILES—MAINTENANCE OF SPREAD
BETWEEN U.S. AND CANADIAN PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Is the minister aware that the president of Chrysler Corporation of Canada in an address to the Calgary Chamber of Commerce said that the spread between automobile prices in Canada and in the United States is here to stay? Will the minister look into this situation to determine whether this kind of attitude is in keeping with announcements made in this house?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

IMMIGRATIONQUEBEC—DISCUSSIONS RESPECTING
INCREASED MOVEMENT FROM
FRANCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration, whose star still shines bright in the political firmament.

Over the week end the minister engaged in some discussions with the premier of Quebec

with regard to French-speaking immigrants. Is the minister in a position to inform the house of the results of those discussions and to announce a new policy in that respect?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have had no discussions with the premier of the province of Quebec.

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

Is the minister going to have some discussions in the near future with the Quebec premier?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, I read in the newspapers that the Quebec premier intended to meet me. I shall be happy to do so if ever he expresses that wish.

[*English*]

PUBLIC SERVICESUPERANNUATED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES—
REQUEST FOR INCREASED PENSIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to another minister whose star appears to be rising, and I refer obviously to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Benson).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Knowles: After that I hope I will receive a favourable reply to my question. How soon may we expect government legislation implementing the recommendation of the joint committee on the public service of Canada that the pensions of retired civil servants be increased?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the report of the committee is presently under study by Treasury Board officials. In due course I will make recommendations in this regard to the cabinet.

Mr. Knowles: May I ask as a supplementary question whether, in the event there is further delay the government will consider making any such increases retroactive?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, all aspects of the situation will be considered.