

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

to be realized as early as possible. We hope, therefore, that British Columbia will make up its mind what it wants to do in the very near future.

**Mr. Herridge:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the report in the Vancouver *Sun* yesterday that the United States was putting pressure on Canada to get cracking on the Columbia river development, would the minister inform the house of his reaction to this reported pressure?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I think the hon. member's supplementary was covered in the original question.

**Mr. Fulton:** Mr. Speaker, unless you rule the question out of order I should like to say that I am not aware of any pressure being applied by the government of the United States.

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition):** Is the minister in a position to give the house an assurance that the storage dams and hydro development projects under this treaty will commence in 1961?

**Mr. Fulton:** No, I am not in a position to give that assurance. Perhaps my hon. friend's question should be addressed to the premier of British Columbia.

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce a question arising out of the minister's reply. If that is the case, why has the Minister of Trade and Commerce authorized a publication entitled "Industrial investment projects in Canada" which includes \$458 million for hydro development and storage dam projects under the Columbia river treaty construction to begin in 1961?

**Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** It is our hope—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Another vision.

**Mr. Hees:**—that this very important construction program—something not conceived by the late lamented Liberal government—will get under way as soon as possible.

**Mr. Benidickson:** The record speaks for itself.

**An hon. Member:** It surely does.

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, HIGH COMMISSIONER TO U.K.

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister and ask him, in view of the announcement of the appointment of Mr. Jack Stepler as public relations officer to

[Mr. Fulton.]

the Canadian high commissioner to the United Kingdom, whether he would announce what the salary structure and promotion steps of Mr. Stepler will be.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the hon. member should give notice of that question on the order paper in the usual way as it calls for statistical information.

**HOUSING**

C.M.H.C.—RECRUITMENT OF PERSONNEL IN U.K.

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Would the minister inform the house whether an advertisement which was carried by the *Daily Telegraph* in London, England, on May 6, demonstrates a policy of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to recruit personnel overseas for vacancies existing in the head office and regional and district offices of the corporation in Canada?

**Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to accept that question as notice; but as my friend the hon. member for Vancouver East probably knows, there are 20,000 to 25,000 jobs for skilled workers which are unfilled. I presume if there was an advertisement, it was in that connection.

**Mr. Winch:** I have the ad here.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

SITTINGS OF COMMITTEES DURING LUNCHEON RECESS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that we are having morning sessions until one o'clock and the house reconvenes at 2.30, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he thinks it is conducive to the proper discharge of our duties to have committees meet from one o'clock to 2.30?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have no control over the committees; they determine their own affairs. This is somewhat different from the old days.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** It is certainly somewhat different.

(Translation):

**BRIDGES**

CHAMPLAIN BRIDGE, MONTREAL—CONSTRUCTION OF APPROACHES

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for St. Henry