

(Translation):

BRIDGES

CHAMPLAIN BRIDGE, MONTREAL—ABOLITION OF TOLLS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Remi Paul (Berthier-Maskinonge-Delaudiere): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport? Could the minister tell the house if the national harbours board, which comes under his department, plans to abolish the tolls on the Champlain bridge, in Montreal?

(Text):

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will also take that question as notice.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO SECRETARY OF RESOURCE MINISTERS' COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister of northern affairs, and also to take this opportunity of congratulating him on his good fortune in being appointed to a portfolio which as a result of the kind of vision referred to by Lord Home in this chamber yesterday has worked wonders in recent years.

My question is: has the general secretary for the resources ministers' council been selected and, if so, could the minister provide the house with his name and a brief résumé of his qualifications?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, this first question from my immediate predecessor gives me an opportunity of telling the house how deeply I appreciate the kindnesses and consideration he has shown me in the transfer of our positions.

In reply to his question I might tell him that the executive of the resource ministers' council was to have met in Montreal on Saturday, May 25, for the purpose of appointing a secretary. Yesterday, however, we had a request from the chairman of the council, Mr. Levesque of Quebec, that the meeting be delayed until June 10. At that time I shall be delighted to tell my hon. friend the outcome of the meeting.

NATIONAL PARKS

BANFF—REPORTED CANCELLATION OF TENDERS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I should like to

Inquiries of the Ministry

reply to the question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Woolliams) in respect to some motel sites in Banff townsite.

Last October steps were taken to permit construction of motels on two sets of lots in Banff where existing parks zoning regulations do not conflict with the recommendations of the Oberlander urban development plan. Public notices were published by the department on December 26, setting out the conditions under which the sites were to be awarded, and the closing date for receiving tenders was February 18. Later, at the request of the then minister, the closing date was moved to March 18.

The assessment of applications for developments that affect the character and general atmosphere of the national park merits a fair degree of time and effort. The then minister sought to have a determination made after April 16. As he had not all the facts he remitted the assessment to the department on or about April 22 for further consideration. Assessment of the 20 tenders has not been completed, and in a matter of days all interested parties will be informed of the final results.

(Translation):

TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

REQUEST FOR INCLUSION OF FRENCH NAME ON AIRCRAFT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Côté (Chicoutimi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport. Since the present government is so well disposed towards biculturalism, does the minister expect that the words "Air Canada" will soon be painted on all T.C.A. aircraft? Last year, the present Minister of National Health and Welfare had introduced a bill in that regard.

(Text):

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for the premise to his question. The government has moved forward very rapidly in the field of improving bilingual and bicultural relationships in this country and I am very happy to report that good progress has been made in the department over which I have the honour to preside.

Mr. Woolliams: Just a matter of words, not action.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the interjection of the hon. member for Bow River, and perhaps it is well I did not hear it. As to the particular question asked by the hon. member for Chicoutimi, I cannot give him the answer at the moment.