

In view of the intention of the Canadian National authorities to close many stations in my constituency and to replace them by another service called Servo-Centre, may I ask the minister whether the Canadian Transport Commission will hold public hearings in the area in order to provide those involved with an opportunity to express their views in that respect?

[English]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if this rationalization by the Canadian National Railways in the servo-centre sense is one which comes under the Canadian Transport Commission. I am making inquiries and will inform the hon. member.

* * *

POWER

PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT— EFFECT ON ENVIRONMENT AND INDIANS

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): My question is directed to the Minister of the Environment and also to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the fact that the Quebec government has let a \$20 million road contract in connection with the James Bay Power Project, what steps have been taken by the federal government to determine the effects this project will have on the environment, and what steps are being taken to protect the livelihood of thousands of native people which could be jeopardized?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development might handle the latter part of the question. There is a joint study going on in respect of the environmental effects between the province of Quebec and the federal Department of the Environment. Preliminary results will be made available in a study to be published in a few weeks time.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, may I be allowed to answer the question of—

[English]

Mr. Paproski: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I would very much appreciate it if the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development could answer the latter part of the question, since it is very important.

Mr. Speaker: This is what the minister was trying to do.

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I was already standing to reply to the hon. member, and I am happy to tell him that the Quebec government, the federal government and the Indians have agreed that a conciliator should consider the problems of all Indians in this area, and the conciliator involved is already at work.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would recognize the hon. member for St. John's East. We will be running short of

Inquiries of the Ministry

time in a few minutes, so perhaps hon. members who have had an opportunity to ask questions during this question period will have to wait until tomorrow. The hon. member may have a supplementary, but we will have to try to limit supplementaries during the next eight or nine minutes.

Mr. Paproski: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only reason I would like to ask a supplementary is that both ministers will not be here tomorrow, so I appreciate this opportunity. I hope the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will make sure that the consultation with the native people of this area will not be of the same type as it has been in Alberta, so that we will not have the same confrontation—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: The Quebec Indians are not coached like those in Alberta.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's East has the floor.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL REPORT—INQUIRY AS TO DECISION ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Since the first report of the Atlantic Development Council has been on the table of this House since April 7, and since it contains important recommendations on the strategy for development of the Atlantic region, may I ask the minister if any policy decision has been taken on those recommendations and if not, why not?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): No, not yet, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question. I ask the minister if the government intends to adopt, in whole or in part, the recommendations of the Atlantic Development Council?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): We are surely going to adopt some of the recommendations, but certainly not all, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

TRADE

FREE TRADE ALLEGED OBJECTIVE OF AUTO PACT— CANADIAN POSITION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): A question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Following the publication in today's *Globe and Mail* of a letter by the important Chairman of the United States Finance Committee, Russell Long, in which he reiterates the American position that the autopact is a free trade agreement, and following a report that came today from Washington to the effect that senior Canadian and American officials