

LABOUR CONDITIONS

BANCROFT, ONT.—REQUEST FOR INCLUSION AS DESIGNATED AREA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. A. Webb (Hastings-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry. Because of the closing of the uranium mines in Bancroft, would the minister declare this area a designated area for industrial incentives?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, we have looked at the problem of Bancroft in an endeavour to find some way of alleviating its plight, and I would be glad to look at it again.

FISHERIES

FILLING OF SEAL PELT QUOTA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. Tucker (Trinity-Conception): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. Would the minister advise the house whether the quota of 50,000 seal pelts has been filled?

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Yes, it has. Didn't you listen to the news?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I understand the Minister of Fisheries will be facing the committee of supply when presenting his estimates this afternoon, and I think that would be the proper time to ask this question.

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I heard a statement made on the other side, that the quota had been reached. This is false news that came over the radio this morning and I would like to be allowed to make a statement to correct this.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Who is giving the false news?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I understand the minister is seeking the permission of the house to revert to motions in order to make a statement, but I suggest he will have an opportunity to make whatever statement he has in mind when we consider the estimates of the Department of Fisheries later this afternoon.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—COMMONWEALTH CONSULTATION ON FIGHTING FORCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the

Inquiries of the Ministry

Secretary of State for External Affairs. Having in mind the minister's reports on Canada's efforts to pacify the Viet Nam war, and likewise having in mind the announcement by Australia today that she is going to quadruple her fighting force in Viet Nam, would the minister say what consultation exists between Commonwealth members on this grave situation?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the decision of the government of Australia to increase its military assistance to Viet Nam was made known to us in Ottawa yesterday by the Australian High Commission, as part of the continuing exchanges of view which we have both here and in Canberra.

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN—CHARGING OF UNREASONABLE PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. R. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Has the minister received any reports alleging that farmers in areas of eastern Canada, where there is a shortage of feed, are being charged completely unconscionable prices for feed, screenings and so on, sometimes as high as \$6 per cwt.? Further, has he received reports that purchases of feed grain from western Canada are not being taken up because of lack of organization at the receiving end, namely eastern Canada.

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we have had complaints in this direction from time to time. It is my hope and belief that the government policy in respect of the eastern feed grain agency, which we hope soon will be before this house, if the house proceeds with its business with some expedition, will help to solve the problem.

BONNYVILLE, ALBERTA—REQUEST FOR ACREAGE PAYMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Yesterday the hon. member for Athabasca asked me a question which I undertook to answer. The answer to the question is that I had not received the report from the Farmers Union of Bonnyville, Alberta, but I am very pleased that the hon. member sent it to me. I might point out that this requests payments