COMMONS DEBATES

STUDIES ON DEFENCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Motion No. 101-Mr. Broadbent:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the cost-benefit studies on the Defence Development Sharing Program showing a 24:1 ratio, referred to by Mr. David Mundy, Assistant Deputy Minister for External Service of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, at the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs on April 1, 1969.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am informed by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce that he is prepared to produce a copy of the cost-benefit analysis showing sales resulting from defence industry productivity program support to Canadian industry referred to by an official of the department at the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs on April 1, 1969.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I did not understand the statement. I wonder whether it could be repeated.

Mr. Forest: Yes. I am informed by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce that he agrees to produce a copy of the costbenefit analysis showing sales resulting from defence industry productivity program support to Canadian industry referred to by any official of the department at the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs on April 1, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservations and conditions expressed by the parliamentary secretary, is it the pleasure of the house that notice of motion 101 be adopted?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE STUDY

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might put this as a question of privilege. More than three months ago it was agreed that the documents I was looking for with regard to the Prince Edward Island causeway construction, particularly the Stanford Research Institute study, would be presented by the government and tabled in the House of Commons. More than three months have gone by and these statements have not been produced. I wonder whether there should be some time limit, when the willing to agree with the prophecy of the government has agreed to produce documents, Leader of the Opposition.

Inquiries of the Ministry

within which they should be tabled in the house.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): They were to be produced, subject to the normal restrictions of consent being obtained from the appropriate provincial authorities. I have had correspondence which I hope will result in the final consents being obtained, but at the moment they have not been obtained.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): It is my understanding that some weeks ago the specific provincial governments indicated they wanted these documents tabled in the house.

ORAL OUESTION PERIOD

TRADE

WHEAT-DECLINE IN EXPORTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister, in view of the general expectation of another serious decline in wheat exports this year, whether he can say if an early statement will be made by one of his colleagues indicating whether there is any hope for improvement in the situation and, if not, whether we may expect a decision soon on the request for interim assistance to western farmers.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will discuss that with my colleagues.

Mr. Stanfield: Could the Prime Minister tell the house whether the U.S.S.R. intends to fill the original terms of its long term wheat agreement with Canada, which I believe expires July 31.

Mr. Trudeau: I think it would be preferable if the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who is concerned with the negotiations reported to this house on that in due course.

Mr. Stanfield: There is one further point in this regard which the minister might answer when he makes his report. Would he say whether it is the view of the government that shipments of grain this year are expected to be minimal, as forward sales of wheat other than Durums are very disappointing and should be amply covered by stocks already in store in St. Lawrence ports.

Mr. Trudeau: I do not think I would be