Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): May I ask the President of the Privy Council when we can expect a reply to starred question No. 185, which was put on the order paper on September 19. It is of the utmost importance economically to Melville.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to look into the matter and see why the question has not been answered. We are waiting to see the right hon. member for Prince Albert identify himself with the Leader of the Opposition.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

RELEASE OF FEDERAL POSITION PAPERS ON CONSTITUTION

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Prime Minister has any further information in response to the question I asked him last week respecting the release of working papers and propositions of the federal government prior to the federal-provincial conference?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. After the meetings of federal and provincial officials last week it was decided that the federal government would be in a position to release its working papers, or, more precisely, its positions on the constitution on the Friday afternoon preceding the conference; that would be the coming Friday at three o'clock in the afternoon. So far as the provinces are concerned my understanding is that some will release and some may not, but they are advised of our position.

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the importance of the matter when it was raised during the last federal-provincial conference on the constitution, will the Prime Minister indicate whether there will be a full discussion of the question of regional disparities, and whether that question will be raised in relation to possible changes in the constitution?

Mr. Trudeau: The subject of regional disparities is on the agenda we have suggested to the provinces. We have had answers now from most of the provinces. I feel that within a day or two at most we will be in a position to make a firm decision. Perhaps we will make that agenda public, if such is the desire.

Inquiries of the Ministry

AIR CANADA

PRESS RELEASE RESPECTING SALE OF WINNIPEG MAINTENANCE BASE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister and relates to the government's announcement that it is authorizing Air Canada to sell its overhaul and maintenance base at Winnipeg. Since this is the question period I cannot throw in any comments I should like to make; probably just as well. May I ask the Prime Minister whether the press release, or whatever statement was made in connection with this matter, can be tabled or even made an appendix to Votes and Proceedings, so we can have as a matter of record the guarantees which I understand the government has given to Air Canada's Winnipeg employees.

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, if it is the will of the house we have no objection to tabling such a press release. I will get it later in the day, and with the permission of the house table an official copy of that press release; or that might be done presently.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, when it is tabled could it be agreed that it be made an appendix to today's Votes and Proceedings?

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, will the house have some knowledge of the contents of the document in advance of the tabling? Agreeing to the tabling in advance of knowing the contents is quite another thing.

Mr. Speaker: I must conclude there is no agreement at the moment. Perhaps the matter might be considered later.

Mr. Baldwin: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he has obtained a copy of the press release regarding the Winnipeg Air Canada base so it could now be tabled? Whether or not he has obtained it as yet, I believe the hon. member for Peace River would now agree to its being made an appendix to today's Votes and Proceedings.

Mr. Baldwin: It is agreed.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.