

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Since the symposium held recently by the Quebec Liberal party proves that that party has a bank of ideas, could the Prime Minister tell us whether he intends to apply to that bank?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think the question is acceptable.

[English]

SHIPPING

CHANGE IN REGISTRATION OF "CAPE BRETON MINER"

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question could be directed jointly to the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Labour, but in the absence of the Minister of Transport I will direct it to the Minister of Labour. Is the minister aware that Upper Lakes Shipping Limited is presently making application to change to foreign registry the registry of the vessel *Cape Breton Miner*, construction of which was subsidized by the Canadian taxpayer? Further, is the minister in a position to advise whether this change can be prevented in order to save the jobs of 39 Canadians who will be replaced by cheap labour—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether the hon. member would agree with me that that question might well be considered at the time of adjournment. I realize there might be some urgency, and if there is the question might be given priority for the adjournment debate.

FLOODS

TRAIL, B.C.—STATEMENT BY MINISTER RESPECTING FINANCIAL AID

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the urgent need for the Trail committee to know what finances are available to them for rehabilitation after the recent disastrous flood, could the minister indicate to the house when he could make a definite statement on the federal government's contribution to the disaster fund?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I assured the Finnish ambassador that we were very interested and that we would carefully and seriously explore the suggestions. It is the Canadian view that questions of European settlement are very urgent. Our only concern is that any proposed conference should succeed, because an abortive meeting would be worse than useless.

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, could the Secretary of State for External Affairs inform the house whether the Canadian government has encouraged other members of NATO to respond in a way similar to that of the Canadian government?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think I did say to the house, when I was asked originally about the NATO meetings, that that was the position taken by Canada and was responded to very constructively by the NATO powers.

TRADE

INHIBITING EFFECT OF CANADA-U.S. TRANSPORT POLICY

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Private Planning Association of Canada has reported that Canada-U.S. transport policy is inhibiting trade between the two countries would the right hon. gentleman state whether this problem is being actively studied at the present time to ensure that this is not the case?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would have to take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of the representations which the hon. member just mentioned.

NATIONAL CAPITAL

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FOR LIMITED TIME

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I too have a question for the Prime Minister. Will he inform the house why the government has taken the extraordinary step of appointing the chairman of the National Capital Commission for a period of one month?

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps this question might be debated at the time of adjournment. I have the impression that this is the type of question which normally ought to be put on the order paper or discussed at the time of adjournment.