

Inquiries of the Ministry
TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

INQUIRY AS TO PARTICIPATION BY QUEBEC

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Bourget (Levis): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Has the minister, since his accession to office, communicated by writing or otherwise with the Quebec provincial authorities regarding the trans-Canada highway? If so, is the minister in a position to say that the provincial government is now ready to join the other provinces in that important project?

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the answer is no, I have not had any communication.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

REPORTED STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT
 OF CONGRESS OF LABOUR

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): In view of the statement made today by the governor of the Bank of Canada and the Prime Minister's own exhortations with regard to the stabilization of prices and income return, may I ask the Prime Minister if the government will give favourable consideration to the suggestion made last Tuesday by Mr. Claude Jodoin, president of the Canadian Congress of Labour, when he spoke to the Toronto board of trade and urged the government of Canada to call a conference of industry and labour at once to deal with some of the important matters to which the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance have directed the attention of the people of Canada from time to time?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Any matter such as that is a question of government policy which will be announced in due course.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): May I ask the Prime Minister, this being the second time Mr. Jodoin has made this request, if the government has given it any consideration at all?

Mr. Diefenbaker: The answer just given to the first question applies to the second.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The answer is no.

HOUSING

N.H.A.—INQUIRY AS TO ENCOURAGEMENT
 OF BANK LOANS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. Garland (Nipissing): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public [Mr. Churchill.]

Works. Can the minister say what consideration, if any, is being given to getting the banks of the country back into N.H.A. lending?

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I would not wish to transgress on the time of the house except to ask my hon. friend through you, sir, to read the very adequate and lengthy statement I made on December 18 last, which is the answer to his question.

CORNWALL—REPORTED DELAY IN LOW
 RENTAL PROJECT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): I should like, Mr. Speaker, to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works of which I have not given him notice, but he may take this as notice if he so wishes. From information appearing in a Cornwall newspaper as well as from a telegram from the Cornwall and district labour council, sent to the Leader of the Opposition it would appear that a low rental housing plan approved by the Cornwall city council is being delayed by the Department of Public Works at the request of the hon. member for Stormont (Mr. Campbell) on the ground that a number of people have declared themselves against the plan, and also on the ground that the lowest tender was a Quebec contractor from Three Rivers.

My question is, have representations been made to the minister, and is it the intention of the minister to delay the housing plan which was approved by the city of Cornwall?

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): I want to thank my hon. friend for the question, which I shall be very happy to take as notice.

INDUSTRY

URANIUM—POSITION OF ELDORADO MINING AND
 REFINING LTD

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce whether Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited, a crown corporation, is to continue to compete with private corporations in the production of uranium in the changed circumstances that now face the industry.

An hon. Member: He doesn't know.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the situation with regard to the uranium industry is going