

Inquiries of the Ministry

difference between the two tenders was the sum of \$150. In fact this is not quite precise; in addition to the \$150 difference there was a further qualification contained in the Halifax shipyard bid which put it out of court.

MAINTENANCE AND CONVERSION OF SHIPS ON
PACIFIC COAST

On the orders of the day:

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday last the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich asked whether the government would continue the policy that ships operating on the Pacific coast would be maintained and converted there. There is currently a review being made of government needs for the acquisition and conversion of shipping of all sorts, but in the meantime it is safe to say that ships which are based on one or other of the coasts and which will continue to operate on the same coast will be maintained on the coast on which they are based and on which they will continue to operate.

AIRPORTS

HAMILTON, ONT.—AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL
FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. William Dean Howe (Hamilton South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport but in his absence perhaps the Prime Minister could answer it. Yesterday officials from the Hamilton city council were in Ottawa to meet with the officials of the Department of Transport with regard to Mount Hope airport. Could the minister tell the house what was the outcome of the discussions which were held?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I wish I could answer that question, but I am not in a position to do so. I will try to get an answer for Monday.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the result in the Toronto Riverdale election yesterday, which removed one of the candidates for the leadership of the Ontario Liberal party from the race, could the Prime Minister confirm or deny the very prevalent rumour in Ontario that he has given his official blessing to the hon. member for Renfrew South?

[Mr. Drury.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO HOLIDAYS FOR STAFF

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Privy Council. In view of the fact that there seems to be general agreement that with the amount of business before us the house must carry on, is it not possible for a quick decision to be made so that members of the House of Commons staff might get their holidays? By "a quick decision" I mean letting some of them, on a staggered basis, start getting holidays this very week end.

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this question is getting active consideration. Many members of the staff of the House of Commons are presently on holiday. The problem has to be worked out, bearing in mind that if the house is sitting certain services are required, but I can assure the hon. member that the subject is getting very active consideration.

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Did I hear the President of the Privy Council say that some of the sessional staff, or those who are regarded as sessional staff, of the House of Commons are presently on holidays?

Mr. McIlraith: No, Mr. Speaker, I did not use the word "sessional".

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

HAL BANKS—REPORTED PRESENCE IN
LONDON, ENGLAND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Is it a fact that Mr. Hal Banks is now in London to see the Canadian high commissioner, Mr. Chevrier, a former minister of justice of this country?

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

STAMP ISSUE COMMEMORATING PRE-
CONFEDERATION MEETINGS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Joseph Slogan (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General. I wonder whether the Postmaster General could explain to the house the symbolism in the new stamp which is being issued by his department commemorating the 1864 meetings, and specifically could