

Inquiries of the Ministry

Secretary of State which arises out of another Victor Mackie article. Perhaps in her absence her Parliamentary Secretary could draw it to her attention. Would the minister consider setting up an informal group of members, drawn from all parties in the house, to operate on an experimental basis for this session, which could act as a repository of suggestions and criticisms regarding television and radio programs, and hold informal meetings with C.B.C. management?

Mr. Speaker: That question might be placed on the order paper.

NATIONAL PARKSSASKATCHEWAN—INQUIRY AS TO
SECOND PARK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. Southam (Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. It is based on the minister's announcement to the house last April that the federal government would develop a second national park in Saskatchewan. What progress has been made toward fulfilling this proposal, and can the minister assure me that the Moose Mountain parkland area will receive the fullest consideration before any final decision is made as to the ultimate location of this park in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question cannot be asked at this time. It should be placed on the order paper.

LABOUR CONDITIONSUNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS RESPECTING
NORTHERN AREAS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. In view of statements to the effect that the minister will soon have responsibility for a department of northern affairs and Indian affairs, will he look into the situation regarding high unemployment in northern areas, of which the U.I.C. has no accurate records, in order that these areas may be included in the list of designated areas?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to accept the premise on which the question is based, but all these matters are under constant review by the department.

[Mr. McCleave.]

RESEARCHREQUEST FOR INCREASED GOVERNMENT
ASSISTANCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reg Cantelon (Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Last evening on C.B.C. we heard that basic research in this country is one third financed by United States foundations. I am sure we all appreciate this aid, but in view of the importance of research to the continued prosperity of the country is it wise that there should be this dependency? Has the Prime Minister reached a decision to substantially increase university research grants this session and, if he has not, when will he do so?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I listened to that statement by a very distinguished scientist in B.C. who has been honoured with a very distinguished award, and I was much surprised at the figures he used. I have already taken steps to inquire if those figures are correct, and the policy of the government in regard to assistance for research will be made known before long.

NORTHERN AFFAIRSPREPARATION OF BILL AMENDING
PRESENT LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources whether the bill to amend the Northwest Territories Act and the Yukon Act has yet been drafted.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, it is in process; yes.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): As a supplementary question are we to understand from the minister's reply that the Northwest Territories Act amendments and the Yukon Act amendments are in process of being drafted, and that only?

Mr. Laing: Well, Mr. Speaker, I did not delineate the extent of the progress.

Mr. Nielsen: May I put this supplementary question to the minister. Has the bill itself, with respect to these amendments to the Yukon and Northwest Territories Acts, been printed?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.