

he is making now is of the type which would normally be made on motions. He might wish to revert to motions for the purpose of making this statement—

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I was replying preamble for preamble.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Hees: The minister has out-preambled me so far.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder whether the minister considers he has now answered the question.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): In view of these developments, and at my request, inquiries are being made by the Department of External Affairs to clarify the position of the United States State Department in this matter.

Mr. Hees: A supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Before the hon. member is allowed to put a supplementary question I think I should remind all hon. members that questions should be as short and to the point as possible, and that replies should be the same. If we are to have questions and answers as long as those we have just heard we might be placed in a position where the length of the question period would have to be extended, and I am not sure all hon. members would desire this.

Mr. Hees: My supplementary question will be very short, Mr. Speaker. Provided his inquiries show that an application will be accepted by the Secretary of State, will the minister undertake to make such application immediately?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hees: Have I got the minister's word on that? Come on.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is hypothetical.

Mr. Hees: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The minister's reluctance to answer shows that somebody is being protected against the due process of law, and that is Mr. Banks.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: I have to rule that this is not a proper point of order.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): A supplementary question to the Minister of Justice. While further inquiries are being made, would the minister arrange for a showing of the Hal Banks home movies?

[Translation]

NATIONAL PARKS

GASPÉ—AGREEMENT BETWEEN PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

The negotiations with regard to the development of the first national park in the province of Quebec are going at a snail's pace. Does the Prime Minister intend to meet the Regional Development Council for the Lower St. Lawrence, the Gaspé peninsula and the Magdalen Islands as requested by telegram by its chairman, Claude Jourdain, a lawyer, with a view to finding out the reason for holding up this project which is most important to the future of tourism in Gaspé and the whole province of Quebec?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have indeed received an invitation to meet the chairman. I am willing to do it, if I must, but I feel that it might be more useful for me to say that this very day the government took a decision in this regard which, I think, will benefit the citizens of Gaspé and Canada as a whole. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will advise the authorities of the province of Quebec of the terms of that proposal to find out whether it might be possible to reach an agreement.

Should we fail to do so, I might consider the request but, for the time being I have every reason to believe that our proposal will benefit all Canadian citizens.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Moncton.

Mr. Charles H. Thomas (Moncton): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was for the Minister of Transport. Since he is not here today, and since his assistant is not here, I will defer it.