

Inquiries of the Ministry

confidence, with regard to the program in connection with such a serious loss of trade, the restoration of which would lead to the revenue about which he spoke so eloquently earlier on?

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker. If a statement is to be made it will be made by the appropriate minister.

Mr. Woolliams: May I direct a supplementary question to the minister? I wish to join with other hon. members in welcoming him back. When the hon. gentleman gets back to his desk, and in the near future, will he be prepared to make a statement on this serious problem, one which is causing anxiety to the industry in Canada, particularly in western Canada?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): We shall be in constant touch with the industry. I believe we are in continuing consultation with Washington with respect to their current review of policy. As the hon. member knows, a good deal of the future well-being of the oil industry in Canada depends on United States policy and the attitude they take toward the present quota system. In these circumstances I believe the best service we can do the Canadian industry is to make sure that our views are made known in Washington as strongly and as effectively as possible, and this we certainly intend to continue to do.

[Translation]

SPORTS**INQUIRY AS TO SUBSIDIZATION OF AMATEUR PROGRAM**

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wished to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare; I trust that, in his absence, the Prime Minister will be happy to answer it.

As in the last few days the minister met with the Quebec Minister of Tourism with regard to financial assistance to amateur sports in the province of Quebec, would the Prime Minister tell us if they agreed on the terms of such assistance, and what the amount of the grant will be?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would respectfully remind the hon. member that today is not one of those when the Minister of National Health and Welfare is required to answer questions.

[English]

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Could the Prime Minister tell us exactly who

[Mr. Woolliams.]

is answering for that department today, so that we could at least know who will take questions as notice? Or are we to continue this constipation of thought and diarrhoea of words?

NATIONAL DEFENCE**NORAD—OPPORTUNITY FOR DEBATE OF AND CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN AIRBORNE WARNING**

Mr. David Lewis (York South): That last remark inhibits me somewhat, Mr. Speaker, since I cannot do other than use words in phrasing my question.

I would like to ask the right hon. Prime Minister whether he would give assurance to the house that the government will not enter into any arrangement with regard to participation in the air warning and control system without first having the matter debated in parliament?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we have taken the position that further progress toward the definition of defence policy will be announced in due course, and of course members of the house will have an occasion to discuss it.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, in light of the widespread press interpretation of the remarks of the Minister of National Defence and of the Secretary of State for External Affairs last night, may I ask the right hon. Prime Minister whether the government has now concluded in its defence policy review the necessity for some form of continual role in NORAD, and particularly in the U.S. proposals for airborne warning and control through the 1970's?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment on the press interpretations that the hon. member refers to, not having been made aware of them and not having read them, but I can say that the policy has not yet been finally decided by the government.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE**REQUEST FOR WHITE PAPER FOLLOWING REVIEW**

Mr. David Lewis (York South): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the Prime Minister assure the house that the white paper on the conclusions following the