Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the government is of course, as much concerned as my hon. friend about the carnage on the highways. There will be a bill introduced very shortly having to do with auto safety. I had one federal-provincial conference with the ministers concerned in the ten provinces and will be having another in a few weeks. If it appears that a board of some kind on a permanent basis offers the best solution to this problem, we will be happy to consider its implementation.

POLLUTION

HARMAC PULP MILL-INQUIRY AS TO ACTION

Mr. Douglas A. Hogarth (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Fisheries. What action has the minister taken with regard to the massive pollution of the waters adjacent to the Harmac Pulp Mill in British Columbia by the spillage of chemicals which took place last Tuesday night?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, we have our fisheries protection officers on the spot. We are assessing what damage is being done to the fisheries. We are in close touch with the company involved.

Mr. Hogarth: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister please inform the house whether this mill is still operating while these investigations are taking place?

Mr. Davis: The mill is still operating, but the spill in question has been brought to an end.

JET AIRCRAFT—INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUC-TION OF LEGISLATION

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Is the minister prepared to introduce legislation during this session to outlaw the unnecessary and dangerously increasing form of air pollution caused by jet aircraft? I ask this question because the Ontario Minister of Energy and Resources has asked the federal government to take action to outlaw pollution caused by jet aircraft, particularly at the Toronto international airport, and also because seven United States airlines are now proving they have the technical capacity to remove such air pollution—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should not support his question by a speech.

[Mr. Mather.]

October 24, 1969

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member laid so much groundwork I am not sure I got the point. In any event, I want to say we are having discussions with the airlines. Whether we have the federal competence to deal with this matter I do not know, but we are certainly prepared to take steps to whatever extent we can to alleviate this admitted problem.

UNITED NATIONS

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF INFORMA-TION CENTRE

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of today being United Nation's day and also in view of the fact Canada is the only one of more than 50 senior members of the United Nations which does not have a United Nations information centre, will the minister inform the house whether the establishment of such a centre might be in his plans, particularly in view of the increased emphasis on international development on a multilaterial basis by the United Nations?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it is a suggestion I will be very happy to take into consideration. As the hon. member knows, it is one of the principal aims of the present government to renew the United Nations and the confidence of the world in it, but it is not simply a matter of establishing an information centre. I believe some fundamental reforms have to made in the United Nations itself before there will be the necessary degree of confidence.

SHIPBUILDING

EXTENSION TO OTHER VESSELS OF STEEL SHIP CONSTRUCTION SUBSIDY

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It is with respect to the reply he gave me on Wednesday at page 11725 of *Hansard* concerning the progress of the Robertson inquiry. I believe the minister was a little too enthusiastic and optimistic in the excitement of the commencement of parliament. Would he like to rephrase his answer now? Will he make a determination to do something about shipbuilding?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I apologize. I was indeed too optimistic. May I explain that a