Inquiries of the Ministry INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF MEDIATOR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Stanbury (York-Scarborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he has received a report from Mr. Stuart Keate in respect of the dispute between the C.B.C. and its producers. If so, is the Prime Minister prepared to inform the house as to its contents?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this report was delivered to my office a few minutes before I came into the house. I hope to be able to read it this evening and forward it to the two parties concerned, after which it will be made public.

AIR CANADA

STATEMENT ON THREATENED STRIKE OF EMPLOYEES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. John N. Turner (Member of the Administration): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Transport undertook to provide an answer to the hon. member for New Westminster regarding a dispute which exists between the Canadian Airline Employees Association and Air Canada. I am advised by Air Canada that at a conciliation board meeting with negotiating committees of the union and Air Canada there was unanimous agreement as to the terms of a new contract, but that to date the membership of the union has failed to accept their recommendation. Officials of the union are understood to be meeting today to determine the position of that group.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM-REPORTED APPEAL BY UN SECRETARY GENERAL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I have not sent him notice of it, but it is about a subject with which I know he is familiar and will not be embarrassed. Has the minister noted the urgent appeal of the secretary general of the support to Mr. U Thant's plea?

[Mr. Nicholson.]

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I did note what the secretary general said yesterday. What he said was precisely the same as what he said the other day in London. The Canadian government's actions with respect to the role of the commission are not inconsistent with this plea.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

PROPOSAL BY ZAMBIA THAT U.K. BE EXPELLED

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he has sent a message to the prime minister of Zambia advising him that Canada will not support Zambia's proposal to expel Great Britain from the commonwealth?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, all I have seen about this proposed action, which it is reported may be taken by President Kaunda, is what I have read in the press. The other day we had an opportunity of exchanging views with his minister of foreign affairs here in Ottawa, and I think the government of Zambia is aware of the views of the Canadian government in this regard.

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, how can the government be aware of the situation unless something has been said by the minister? In the interests of maintaining a united commonwealth, and in view of the support we have been giving Zambia recently, should we not take some step to strengthen the commonwealth rather than permit a country like this to suggest the expulsion of the senior member?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I fully agree with my hon. friend that we should take every step we can to strengthen the commonwealth. As I said, we did have a discussion here the other day with the foreign minister of Zambia. I think my hon. friend will be able to conclude, from what I said United Nations yesterday at the convention in before the external affairs committee on this Atlantic City of the amalgamated clothing subject, that we are very anxious to see to it workers, urging that both sides in the war in that action taken with regard to the problem Viet Nam should now scale down military in Rhodesia is not designed in any way to operations and take the initiative in direct destroy the unity of the commonwealth, that negotiation; and will the government give its indispensable organism for international harmony at the present time.