

passed this order in council. I do not think it has been approved yet by Treasury Board. I hope it will soon be approved.

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[Translation]

POWER

PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the numerous observations made by certain hon. members, and particularly of their interest in the James Bay project, I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether the federal government leaves to the province of Quebec the entire responsibility for the James Bay project and whether he is prepared to co-operate in so far as possible and to grant subsidies and loans?

Right Hon. P.E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The question is complex, Mr. Speaker. Of course the establishment of hydroelectric services on a river within a province falls under the jurisdiction of that province. Still, such undertakings may have consequences in areas under the responsibility of the federal government, for instance on the Indian population, the financing method, the export of energy—if that is the intention—the establishment of means of transportation, if the provincial government waits for the federal government to build them. Now for all those reasons, we are interested in certain aspects of the project and it is those aspects that the government of the province of Quebec will have to discuss with the federal government if it wants to have our co-operation.

At present, the federal government has made no commitments.

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[English]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION INTO LEAKING OF CABINET DOCUMENTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Yesterday he told the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings that it had not yet been determined who is responsible for any of the leaks of confidential government documents. I should like to ask the right hon. gentleman what methods of investigation are now being used by the government in view of the fact that some of these leaks or disclosures took place a number of months ago?

• (1210)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the same methods as always have been used. I requested the minister of each department in which a leak might have originated to make an investigation in his department and, in cases where he felt it was within his responsibility, to discuss with the Solicitor General the importance in some cases of having the police pursue and

Inquiries of the Ministry

investigation or otherwise—whether it should be pursued by the department itself with its own facilities.

Mr. Stanfield: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the right hon. gentleman whether there is any instance in which the matter has gone beyond the minister of the particular department and the Solicitor General has been consulted by a minister of the government with regard to any particular leak, if I may use that word.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I would have to check to see if any minister in fact has brought in the police in any case.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will be recognized for a brief supplementary. There are only two minutes left before the end of the question period.

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is addressed to the Prime Minister. Since the four unnamed, undefined and impersonal monitors in the Solicitor General's department are to monitor security and problems of security within the country, does their jurisdiction extend to monitoring security within the government as a directive from the Prime Minister?

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker. I answered this question. When there is any suspicion of a leak within a department it is the minister of that department who makes the investigation. There is no over-all authority of the RCMP to go into a department and make an investigation of matters coming within the jurisdiction of the department.

Mr. Nowlan: On a supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder whether we might pursue the matter tomorrow. We are running short of time. The hon. member for Malpeque.

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AGRICULTURE

SUGGESTED DIVERSION OF POTATOES PURCHASED UNDER STABILIZATION PROGRAM TO STOCK FEEDING

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. What reply has he made to the Prince Edward Island Potato Co-ordinating Committee with regard to their request that potatoes purchased under the potato stabilization program be diverted at least in part to stock feeding?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply very briefly. We are trying to work out a program which will be useful in this respect but, as the hon. member knows, these potatoes would be sold back at a very low price and we want to make sure that they do not wind up as table potatoes or as processing potatoes at that time. We want to be very careful also that we do not short the market and have to replace these potatoes.