

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for South Western Nova. I apologize to the hon. member. I am sure his patience will be rewarded in a few seconds. I think the hon. member for Waterloo has a supplementary.

Mr. Saltzman: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister give some indication of how long it will take before he is in a position to give some definite information to industry in Canada which will indicate that there are some answers to this problem?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, as is so well known, my difficulty lies in attempting to reconcile the conflicting interests in the Canadian business community.

TEXTILES—ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Inasmuch as the statement on textile policy was to have been forthcoming in the month of April and since the month of April ended yesterday, can the minister now tell us, without using the word "soon", when we may expect such statement?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I can only say that the month of May immediately follows the month of April.

Mr. Comeau: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister now tell us whether he has met with the provincial ministers and whether he will be able to make a statement next week?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I have met with as many people as I could, and when it was not physically possible for me to do so my officers have done so.

AIR TRANSPORT

REPORT ON CRASH AT WABUSH

Mr. Ambrose Hubert Peddle (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador): Thank you for recognizing me, Mr. Speaker, after I had almost given up hope. My question is to the Minister of Transport. Since it is almost six months since the crash of the DH-125 jet at Wabush which claimed the lives of a number of officials of Churchill Falls Corporation, can the minister give any indication when the report on the investigation by his department will be released?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I could not attempt to give a date but I hope it will be very soon.

RESEARCH

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON STUDY OF INDUSTRIAL USES FOR GRAIN

Mr. Doug. Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board? In view of the current surplus of grain in Canada, will the minister give consideration to making a statement on motions in order to inform the House of the sort of research in which the National Research Council is involved with respect to industrial uses of grain? Should he decide to make such a statement, would the minister also make specific reference to studies respecting the feasibility of adding quantities of grain alcohol to fuel for motor vehicles as an anti-pollution measure?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should not make the statement himself.

Mr. Gilbert: Answer!

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, it is a very interesting proposition. I will be glad to look into it.

PRIME MINISTER

ITINERARY OF ASIAN TRIP

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister? In view of his upcoming Asian trip, when is the Prime Minister going to release his itinerary? Also, does it include Viet Nam?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe the itinerary is subject to approval by all the countries I am visiting, and is not final yet. Thus far there is no indication of Viet Nam in it.

TRADE

EFFECT OF REPORTED AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED WITH NEW ZEALAND

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister? It has been reported that a new trade agreement will be signed with New Zealand. Will this in any way change the trade arrangements that we now have with New Zealand?