

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

Mr. Macquarrie: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Do I take it from the minister's reply that the Prince Edward Island plan is available for renegotiation and review upwards, we would hope, along the new lines of his generosity?

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member read the agreement, he would see that it provides for renegotiation. Under the terms of the agreement, we are willing to negotiate again at any time.

[English]

TAXATION**AMENDMENT OF WHITE PAPER PROPOSALS IN LIGHT OF ALLEGED LOSS OF FOREIGN CAPITAL**

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Will he be making any further amendments to the white paper proposals on taxation with regard to the mining industry in view of the opinion expressed at the Ontario Mining Association annual meeting that Canada was quickly losing its favoured position in regard to investment of international resource capital?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I trust that a great many submissions will be made to the parliamentary committee and, of course, all of them will receive due consideration.

TRANSPORT**APPOINTMENT OF HON. GORDON TAYLOR AS ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER**

Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport my question is directed to his Parliamentary Secretary. In view of the announcement in the middle of last week of the appointment of the Minister of Highways of Alberta to the position of Assistant Deputy Minister in the federal Department of Transport and yesterday's announcement by the Premier of Alberta that Mr. Taylor had decided not to accept the appointment, can the Parliamentary Secretary advise whether the appointment was announced before it was accepted or whether Mr. Taylor resigned within hours of being appointed?

[Translation]

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker,

having been appointed to this position by the government, the Hon. Gordon Taylor himself then asked to be allowed to turn down the appointment. May I have the consent of the House to table copies of two letters, one from the Hon. Gordon Taylor and the other from the Deputy Minister of Transport stating the reasons for this refusal?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Parliamentary Secretary seeks the permission of the House to table certain documents.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There does not appear to be agreement. I am not sure whether the document referred to by the Parliamentary Secretary would be covered by the Standing Order which does not require the consent of the House. Perhaps the matter might be held in abeyance for the time being.

NATIONAL DEFENCE**RIVERS AIR BASE—LEASE TO NATO ALLY—FUTURE USE**

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell the House if negotiations are in process to lease Rivers Air Base to one of our NATO allies?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, some negotiations are in process but not to lease the base to any of our NATO allies.

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): In view of the fact that all training activities at Rivers will cease at the end of June, could the minister indicate when there will be a definite statement concerning the future use of the base? I think he will understand the urgency of the matter.

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do understand the urgency of the matter. I expect to have some definite information from the party concerned by the end of May.

SPORTS**WINNING OF ALLAN CUP BY U.S. TEAM—PROVISION OF ADEQUATE COACHING IN CANADA**

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I have a very serious question for