

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, since the minister is in charge of the department responsible for the Cape Breton Development Corporation, can he tell the house whether this resignation is going to be accepted, whether it was given voluntarily to the government and whether a reason was asked for by the minister?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I have been informed by the office of the Prime Minister that the resignation was accepted.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): While I am on my feet may I ask in relation to this particular development corporation whether the minister is in a position to reply to the question I posed to him on Thursday?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): This matter was discussed by the standing committee of this house, particularly on April 22 and there has been nothing new since.

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, was this resignation voluntary or was it asked for by the government?

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in light of unusual developments and things that have taken place, will the minister present to parliament its long term plans so members of this house will not be accused of discriminating against the miners of Cape Breton and these miners will have a choice to decide for themselves to come within these plans?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, there is no discrimination at all in respect of these plans.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether he does not consider it discrimination in respect of a man who, after 49 years service, is arbitrarily dismissed?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): These are isolated cases.

Mr. MacInnis: Would the minister reply to my last question?

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question regarding traffic safety—

Mr. Speaker: I understand the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond is rising on a point of order. Perhaps the hon. member for Surrey would defer his question.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, my point of order arises from the fact that I asked the minister a question to which he gave an answer, but for some reason the answer did not come across. Would he repeat it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure the question should have been allowed or that the minister should have been allowed to reply. He did reply, but in my opinion the simple answer would be for the hon. member to put his answer on the order paper. The supplementary question was allowed and perhaps the minister now may wish to reply.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what in the hon. member's question is really a question and what is a statement. However, if I am asked whether we are ready to disclose information about the early retirement plan and whether it is a public plan, I will answer that one can easily get such information and I do not object at all to its being given to hon. members in the house.

[*English*]

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, in the future will the minister listen to the question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We will now listen to the hon. member for Surrey.

HIGHWAY SAFETY**AUTOMOBILES—INSTALLATION OF
INFLATABLE AUTOMATIC
DEVICES**

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, my question has to do with traffic safety and I should like to direct it to the Minister of Transport. Will he consider taking similar action to that taken last week by his counterpart in the United States, who at that time told car manufacturers that they are going to be required to instal on their new automobiles an automatic inflatable device which, at the instant of a car crash, expands and cushions the shock to the occupants of the car? Will the minister consider taking this or similar action?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is making a representation to the minister in respect of an assumption he may take into account.

PEST CONTROL**USE OF D.D.T. IN FOOD CROPS**

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): My question is directed to the Minister of