

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

some interest, I am sure, to Canadians to have a United States senator telling Canadians over the Canadian national television network what is proper for Canadians. Incidentally I should like to point out this fact, that very few realize what the resolutions were that were passed by the organization of American states. The resolution with regard to economic relations, which is No. 8, resolved upon the immediate suspension of trade with Cuba in arms and implements of war.

We have consistently followed that course in our dealings with Cuba during a considerable period. It also directs the O.A.S. council to study the feasibility and desirability of extending the suspension to other items. It is of interest that the vote was 16 to 1 in favour of this resolution, with four abstentions, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Chile. Canada's stand has been that in reference to military and strategic commodities we would not trade. It is of interest that the organization of American states has now agreed on the course that we followed voluntarily in the past.

FISH—PRODUCER REPRESENTATION ON CARIBBEAN COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. C. W. Carter (Burin-Burgeo):** I wish to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce. Since I have not been able to give the minister notice, perhaps he will prefer to take the question as notice today and reply tomorrow. My inquiry has to do with the Canadian trade commission which is at present travelling around the Caribbean area under the auspices, I believe, of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Inasmuch as the Newfoundland fish buyers and exporters are represented on this commission, will the minister say why the producers, the fishermen themselves, are not represented on it?

**Hon. Gordon Churchill (Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce):** I shall draw the question to the attention of the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

TRANSPORT

USE OF U.S. SECURITY GUARDS IN CANADIAN SHIPYARDS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** On February 5 I asked the Minister of Transport a question about the use of United States security guards in Canadian shipyards, and in his reply the minister said in part:

I will inquire and let him know tomorrow.

Has the minister the answer now?

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport):** I am sorry. I have not the answer yet, but I shall get it very soon.

SPRINGHILL, N.S.—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON RAILWAY SERVICE

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillin-gate):** I wonder if I may recall to the mind of the Minister of Transport a question I asked him some time ago about the railway line from Springhill Junction to Springhill, and inquire if the hon. gentleman has anything to report as a result of the investigations he undertook to carry out.

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport):** I did not undertake to make any special investigation. I simply answered the question asked by the hon. member, and there is no change in the situation as far as I am aware.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** May I ask the minister if he is able to say yet whether this railway is in fact being torn up?

**Mr. Balcer:** The railway is still the property of a private company. If the hon. member wishes some information with regard to it he can get it from the private company.

COAL

RAND REPORT—STUDY BY INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister inform the house whether the report of the interdepartmental committee set up to study the recommendations of the Rand royal commission on coal has completed its work, and is the Prime Minister in a position to provide the house with a copy of this report or to comment upon the recommendations of this interdepartmental committee?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, following the report of the Rand royal commission an interdepartmental committee was set up for the purpose of looking into the report. It made its recommendations. But of course documents prepared under such circumstances are privileged and are not produced. However, I think I would not be transgressing if I said that examination of the recommendations did not convince the government that they would meet the overall problem over a period of years.

We realize the difficulties in Cape Breton and generally among mining communities in the maritimes. Concerning the Rand royal commission report, the section dealing with