

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the general subject of the constitutional jurisdiction of the federal and provincial governments is on the agenda of the federal-provincial conference.

[Translation]

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**SUPERANNUATED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES—  
REQUEST FOR INCREASED PENSIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the right honourable Prime Minister and I hope that he will be in a position to answer it today.

Does he intend soon to comply with the request of retired civil servants who are asking for increased pensions out of the Public Service Alliance fund, as recommended by a parliamentary committee in the spring of 1967?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think this question was asked just a few days ago.

**Mr. Laprise:** Mr. Speaker, with all due respect, the question has not been answered, and if the right hon. Prime Minister cannot give a satisfactory reply today, I would ask that it be taken up at ten o'clock at the next opportunity.

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, to avoid a discussion at ten o'clock, I must say that the question has been answered repeatedly. It was answered last week, and I myself stated that the matter was under consideration. Indeed, there has been an exchange of correspondence between the representatives of the civil servants and myself. I indicated that we were not in a position to grant those increases now but that we would consider it as soon as possible.

**Mr. Laprise:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question and ask the right honourable Prime Minister whether he is aware that the request of the public servants follows the recommendation of the parliamentary committee. I am not asking that government funds be used but rather funds taken out of the public service fund.

[English]

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the estimates of the Treasury Board are listed for

[Mr. Howard (Skeena).]

today perhaps the appropriate minister should be prepared to discuss this matter later today.

**OIL**

**REPORTED REDUCTION IN U.S. IMPORTS FROM CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce arising out of a statement he has made and out of answers given by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Will the minister advise the house as to the terms and conditions of the cut-back in exports of crude petroleum from Canada to the United States?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** I am replying now on behalf of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whom I replace today in the house, and in my own capacity.

The newspaper to which the hon. member refers, this morning's *Globe and Mail*, puts words in my mouth, as sometimes is the case with the best papers. I never used the word "quotas".

My hon. friend will remember that about a year ago I stood up in this house and gave an explanation about the kind of agreement we had entered into with the United States. At that time I referred to a "framework" of agreement. I never denied that some figures were contained in that, but I emphasized at that time, as I do today, that there were all kinds of qualifications, ifs and whens. So much so, I said at the time and I repeat now, that it would not be useful to members to know what were the exact figures. As a matter of fact this is the way the agreement has evolved. Because of delays in the construction of capline some adjustments had to be made.

I repeated these points, I believe, to the newspaperman yesterday, but he quotes me this morning as having said "quotas", which I deny.

**Mr. Woolliams:** In spite of the reservations the minister has mentioned, is he prepared to advise the house and the country whether there has been, by agreement, a reduction in the exportation of crude petroleum from Canada to the United States, forgetting about quotas?

**Mr. Pepin:** My hon. friend knows that the export of oil to the United States is a very difficult subject. He has good informants in Calgary, who tell him that Canada has to be