

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Northern Development. Did the minister tell the residents of Banff, Jasper and certain other national parks that if they did not like the situation in the parks at the present time they could leave? If not, what did the minister say?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I have some doubt as to the form of the question. I would not think it was in order for an hon. member to ask whether or not a minister had made a certain statement outside the House. Perhaps the question might be rephrased.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Thank you. As Your Honour might expect, there has been considerable controversy in the press and the other media in connection with this matter. In order to clear the air, so to speak, I thought the minister might like an opportunity to make a statement. Possibly I could put it this way: would the minister make a brief statement to the House, perhaps by asking to revert to motions, on the subject of leases in the national parks?

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** I can make a very short answer to that. With the permission of the House I will table a letter written in January, 1962, when the then Minister of Northern Affairs, the hon. member for Brandon-Souris, announced the policy which was to come into effect today—the policy of the opposition.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Would the hon. member for Oxford kindly resume his seat? I gather that the minister has asked leave to table a document. Is that agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Now that we have heard those interesting remarks by the minister, perhaps the hon. gentleman will answer the question he was asked.

**Mr. Chrétien:** I have just said—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Rocky Mountain.

**Mr. Allen B. Sulatycky (Rocky Mountain):** Bearing in mind the results of the plebiscite held in Banff yesterday, which showed clearly that 80 per cent of the people of that community are dissatisfied with the present method of administering the townsite, will the minister deal with the citizens of Banff and Jasper in a reasonable and sensible

[Mr. Nesbitt.]

manner from now on rather than make the kind of ill-informed statements attributed to him in the press last week?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

[Translation]

[Later:]

**Mr. Chrétien:** While I have the floor, Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment on the question of the member for Rocky Mountain because I did not have the opportunity to answer. Concerning national parks, the policy of the government is always to put the interests of the Canadian people before those of businessmen.

[English]

[Later:]

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker I have a supplementary question for the minister arising from a question asked previously by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain. Is it the view of the minister and the government that citizens of the national parks who do not like the unfair tactics of the government should secede and join the provinces?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**INDUSTRY****COPPER—AMOUNT RETAINED FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION**

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** May I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I understand his department recently issued a new directive to the copper producers stipulating the amount of copper which must be retained in Canada for domestic consumption. Can the minister give us some idea of the percentage which must be retained and the extent to which the new directive differs from the directive issued only a few weeks earlier?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** The amount is 23,500 tons a month in the next two months, which is about 55% of the monthly tonnage of refined copper produced in Canada. This is based on average supplies of the first six months of last year, a period when supply was the highest in Canadian history. As I said