Inquiries of the Ministry

next week we will be in a position to inform Members of Parliament definitely as to the schedule so that they will be able to make whatever plans appear to them to be necessary for the summer months.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

EAST PAKISTAN—PROVISION OF RELIEF—DISCUSSION WITH RED CROSS

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): My question is addressed to the Prime Minister. As the Secretary of State for External Affairs stated in the House yesterday the government's general intention to assist in the relief of the people of East Pakistan, can the Prime Minister tell us specifically whether the question of such relief has been discussed with the International Red Cross?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do know that the Canadian High Commissioner is in East Pakistan rather than in Islamabad and that he has been asked to report to the government on the possibility of moving large supplies of foodstuffs and other supplies to East Pakistan if and when they are requested by the government of that country. I should also say that I have been in communication with the president of Pakistan. However, so far as the Red Cross is concerned, I am not aware of any exchanges having yet taken place.

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—PROGRESS IN NATIONAL DEFENCE SECTOR

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Would the minister, perhaps on Monday, make a statement on motions to the House informing us to what extent his aspect of the summer employment program for students is working? Are all the spaces taken up or is there room for more applications? I ask this question in view of the fact that the minister's share of the program is probably the most practical one, and we would like to know how it is progressing.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): I will consider the suggestion about making a statement. I can say in a general way that the program, as it was last year, has been oversubscribed.

Mr. Nesbitt: In view of the fact that the minister's share of this program has been oversubscribed, would he take up the matter with his cabinet colleagues and try to obtain more money to enlarge the program?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to draw to the attention of hon. members that we are falling behind our schedule this morning.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

POWER

PROPOSED LARGE-SCALE QUEBEC DEVELOPMENT—DIS-CUSSIONS BETWEEN FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOV-ERNMENTS ON DIVERSION OF WATERS AND EXPORT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask the right hon. Prime Minister a question with regard to the suggested large-scale power development by the province of Quebec. Have there been any discussions between his government and the province of Quebec with regard to the diversion of waters, in association with any such project, under the jurisdiction of the government of Canada and any discussions with regard to the export of power as a result of such diversion?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will take the question as notice and ask the appropriate minister to reply. There have been none with me personally.

PROPOSED LARGE-SCALE QUEBEC DEVELOPMENT— ECOLOGICAL STUDIES OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN DIVERSION OF RIVERS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Earlier in the week I asked the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry whether any officials in his department had made surveys on the ecological problems involved in the diversion of five major rivers for this project. He said at that time that he would check to see what he could find out and then would inform the House. Is he in a position now to tell us what, if any, activity or involvement there has been by his department with officials of Quebec in this problem?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): I know of no such inquiry. However, I am still checking to make absolutely certain that there have been no investigations of this kind relating to diversions.

SALE BY QUEBEC TO UNITED STATES INTERESTS

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): In view of the questions that have been asked with reference to this development, was there any discussion between the Prime Minister and the premier of Quebec with regard to the selling of Quebec-Hydro for \$2 billion to United States interests inasmuch as the government seemed to be very interested in what might happen in regard to a company in Calgary, namely, Home Oil?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I understand that it is the sale of electricity, not of any company, that is involved. Of course the House knows that the government is favourably disposed to the sale of Canadian oil, and it is normal that it should also be favourably disposed to the sale of electricity in appropriate circumstances.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, could I supplement the answer of the Prime Minister.