

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NORTHERN AFFAIRS****ESKIMOS—REQUEST FOR FURTHER REPORTS ON DEATHS AT GARRY LAKE, N.W.T.**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. A. Hardie (Mackenzie River): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources was good enough to table the report of an inquest into the death of a number of Eskimos at Garry lake in the Northwest Territories, actually in response to my request of a few days ago. In the sessional paper that was tabled yesterday I find that the R.C.M.P. and the Department of National Defence, through the R.C.A.F. which is flying in that part of the country, did certain work with regard to—

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Hardie: You will get the question right now. First, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence if the R.C.A.F. at Fort Churchill have made any report to his department with regard to the starvation of the Eskimos at Garry lake, and I also want to ask the Minister of Justice if the R.C.M.P. at Baker Lake have made a report.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would ask one question at a time, please.

Mr. Hardie: If so, I want them tabled.

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): I shall be pleased to make inquiries in the department to see whether or not such a report has been received.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may now ask his question of the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Hardie: I should like to ask the Minister of Justice if he has received a report from the R.C.M.P. in the field at Baker Lake, in regard to the starvation of Eskimos at Garry lake.

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): I personally have not received a report, but I shall make an inquiry to see if the commissioner has any information.

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT**NEWSPAPERS—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON INVESTIGATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erhart Regier (Burnaby-Coquitlam): May I ask the Minister of Justice a question in connection with a report that under the anti-combines legislation he is looking into one particular case involving two newspapers in Canada? Is the minister able to inform the house when this investigation is likely

[Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle).]

to be completed, and whether a report of the findings will be made available?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): I am not able to say, Mr. Speaker, with any certainty when the investigation will be completed. During the course of the discussion of my estimates I indicated the number of such investigations that are now under way. With respect to the second part of the question may I say that the tabling of the reports is governed by the provisions of the act, and we will comply with those provisions.

HOUSING**CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING—AVAILABILITY OF MORTGAGE FUNDS OUTSIDE LARGE CENTRES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. Garland (Nipissing): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Since most of the money lent by this government through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for the construction of small homes has gone to the large cities—and I think the best example of that fact is Toronto, which has received 37 per cent—what action is the government taking to ensure that a greater percentage of these funds will in future go to our people living outside these great metropolitan centres?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, some weeks ago steps were taken to have letters written to the mayor or reeve of every centre in Canada with a population of 1,500 or over, pointing out the availability of mortgage funds by direct loan from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. With these letters were sent various pamphlets. In addition, similar information was sent to the newspapers in all these smaller centres in Canada. The results to date have been very satisfactory. A far larger amount of money is being lent in the centres under 55,000 than was the case previously. I heartily agree with the hon. member that this is a highly desirable change.

Mr. Garland: I should like to ask a supplementary question. Do I understand that this sort of campaign is directed to all the centres under 55,000 in population?

Mr. Green: To all centres from 1,500 up to 55,000. One of the suggestions contained in the letter was that officials of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation would be glad to go to any particular centre and explain what type of assistance could be given. Advantage has been taken of this offer in a number of cases.