

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

the question in a different form which, in my view, was a proper question for the order paper if he had chosen to put it on the order paper. It also may be a proper question to be asked orally before the orders of the day, depending on the point of view about urgency. I said yesterday that we had just debated that matter, namely the matter to which this question obviously related, at some length on Monday and it did not appear to me to be urgent to find out, before the orders of the day, whether or not a certain communication on December 2, 1957 had been received. But that view was taken on the question of urgency. As I say, that is a matter of judgment. I might take a different view if the same question were asked today.

**INDUSTRY****AIRCRAFT—REPORT BY AIR INDUSTRIES AND TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister if, on December 2, 1957 or thereabouts, he received a report presented to him by the Air Industries and Transport Association of Canada?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I shall have to examine the records in order to see whether or not such a report was received, and then decide whether or not the information asked for by the hon. gentleman should be given.

**A. V. ROE COMPANY****INQUIRY AS TO MEETINGS WITH UNION AND COMPANY OFFICIALS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia):** I would like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister report any further progress in the negotiations with A. V. Roe Company? Would he say particularly whether it is hoped that 14,000 persons may be employed in this industry, and whether in the meantime the engineering and technical staffs will be kept together intact?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have nothing to add to the answers given yesterday and the day before. The discussions continued this morning and I hope there will be further discussions this afternoon. Until there is some degree of finality there is nothing I can add.

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity):** I would like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Has the government in fact proposed to Avro that

[Mr. Speaker.]

they should seek United Kingdom defence contracts in order to maintain their Canadian operations, as reported in the *Toronto Telegram*?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** The answer I gave the hon. member for Assiniboia would seem to me to be appropriate at this time.

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** May I ask a supplementary question of the Prime Minister. Has the Prime Minister received a request from the premier of Ontario to complete seven of these Arrow airplanes?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Any communications which have been received have been in the nature of general discussions in furtherance of the consideration which is being given to this matter with the Avro company. It would be inappropriate to say anything further than that.

**REQUEST FOR TABLING OF TELEGRAMS CANCELLING CONTRACTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Defence Production. I wonder if the minister would table copies of the telegrams sent to A. V. Roe and Orenda Engines Limited announcing the cancellation of the CF-105 and Iroquois contracts.

**Some hon. Members:** Order paper.

**Hon. Raymond O'Hurley (Minister of Defence Production):** Yes.

**Mr. W. M. Benidickson (Kenora-Rainy River):** A supplementary question. Would the minister tell us also to what extent the government indicated that it would contribute to the payment of severance pay, vacation allowances and other benefits under the union contract?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the question which has just been asked by the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River would be covered by the general answer given by the Prime Minister, namely that this is a matter which is under review between the government and the company.

**COAL****NOVA SCOTIA—INQUIRY AS TO INCREASED SUBVENTIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. J. Robichaud (Gloucester):** I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Has the Prime Minister received a request this week or in the last two days from the premier of Nova Scotia for a decision as soon as possible with respect to increased subventions on Nova Scotia coal? If so, is the Prime Minister