

*Inquiries of the Ministry***WATER RESOURCES****ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF BENNETT DAM ON PEACE RIVER DELTA—EXTENT OF FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN INQUIRY**

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. Recently the minister's office announced that the federal government would participate in an inquiry into the ecological consequences of the Bennett Dam on the Peace River Delta. Can the minister tell us whether this inquiry is the consequence of a federal initiative or whether the federal participation was in response to an invitation from the government of Alberta? Just what is the motivation of the federal participation and to what extent will it go?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): The motivation is both federal and provincial. Both Saskatchewan and Alberta are concerned about this problem, as the hon. member knows. A task force has been established, the chairman has been appointed, and the force is now at work on the problem.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is it within the terms of reference of the federal representatives to pursue inquiries to establish the human responsibility or the degree of human responsibility for the tragic situation affecting the Peace River Delta?

[Later:]

Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one addressed to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry a few moments ago. Will the report of the task force to which he referred be made public, and when may the report be expected?

Mr. Davis: The report of the task force will be made public. Its terms of reference include a deadline which will be in the fall of 1971, in other words, late this year.

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INDUSTRY**TIRES—CHANGES IN TARIFF STRUCTURE—EFFECTS ON COST OF PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT**

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): My question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It concerns the question I asked him yesterday about the removal of tariffs on a portion of the production of tires in Canada. Has any study been undertaken of the effect the removal of the tariff will have on the cost of production and on the level of employment in the rubber industry? If such a study has been made, can the minister make the results available?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I do not know whether there is a thing called a study in 20 pages, bound, and that sort of thing, but I know my department is extremely well informed on

[Mr. Pepin.]

this subject. I have confirmed to the hon. member and others on a number of occasions that discussions are going on between the department and the various companies in the tire industry in Canada with regard to a "tire plan". I am not in a position now to say what classes and levels of tire imports might be permitted free entry, and so on. It would be premature to do so at this stage.

Mr. Saltsman: In the absence of a formal study, will the minister assure the House he will carefully consider the effects of this proposed change in view of the high level of unemployment in Canada, and that he will not take any action which would tend to increase that level?

Mr. Pepin: That is the purpose of this exercise. The purpose is to rationalize the industry in order to strengthen it, to confirm the jobs that it provides and possibly, to increase their numbers.

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COMMUNICATIONS**INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL PRESS COUNCIL**

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): I have a question for the Prime Minister. Since Quebec is apparently going ahead with its plan to establish a press council, and since there is still some affection left between the press of Canada and the Prime Minister, can the right hon. gentleman say whether it is intended adopt the Davey Report recommendation and establish a national press council soon?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I have not heard of anything like that.

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HOUSING**LOAN TO PESTALOZZI COLLEGE—TYPE OF CONTROL TO BE EXERCISED BY CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): May I direct a question to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of housing. Is Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation supervising and controlling the situation with respect to Pestalozzi College in Ottawa better than it did in the case of Rochdale College in Toronto? I understand a \$6 million loan is being made to this college.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): I would hope so, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Ryan: Will the objects of Pestalozzi be different and will the management be different from the type of management at Rochdale?