

*Inquiries of the Ministry***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE****CONSIDERATION OF DIVORCE REFORM AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I notice that the house leader is not present today, so perhaps my question can appropriately be addressed to the right hon. Prime Minister. It has to do with the forecast of legislation dealing with reform of the divorce laws and of the Criminal Code with respect to capital punishment. The question is as follows. In view of the successful and purposeful obscurity in the speech from the throne on this particular point, can the Prime Minister tell us whether these measures will be discussed and decided so far as the government is concerned free of the pressure of the party whip, or whether they are to be regarded as questions involving confidence in the government?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): It is a matter for consideration, Mr. Speaker, and that consideration, in respect of one of these matters, and perhaps in respect of both, should be reserved until we receive the reports of the parliamentary committees which are dealing with these matters.

Mr. Fulton: On a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, would the Prime Minister inform the house what parliamentary committee is dealing with the question of capital punishment?

Mr. Pearson: I must have misunderstood my hon. friend. I did not know he had mentioned capital punishment. I was thinking of divorce and the amendment of the Criminal Code, both of which will be before committees very shortly.

So far as capital punishment is concerned, it will be decided by the government how and when to introduce it and, as I have already stated, I think there will be a completely free vote on it in the sense that every hon. member, particularly on this side, will vote according to his conscience, irrespective of the manner in which it is introduced.

AIR TRANSPORT**REQUEST FOR BAN ON USE OF HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE FUEL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister of Transport is now in a position to [Mr. Speaker.]

answer the question I asked him on Friday, April 21. The question was as follows:

In view of the request of the International Transport Workers Federation that jet airliners be prohibited from using JP4 because of the high inflammability of this fuel, is the minister considering taking steps to ban the use of this fuel by Canadian air lines?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): No, sir, because it is felt that the information, or perhaps I should say the opinion, contained in the hon. gentleman's question is not supported by such scientific evidence as is available.

Mr. Knowles: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

INCOME TAX**REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FOR DONATIONS TO TORNADO FUND**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Monteith (Perth): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of National Revenue. Has he received an application for income tax exemption for donations to the Huron-Perth tornado fund, and if so has such exemption been granted?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question should be placed on the order paper.

NATIONAL PARKS**REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL DECISION ON PERPETUAL LEASES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Before going ahead with the debate on the motion regarding the setting up of a crown corporation to deal with property in the national parks of Canada, would the minister consider referring the legal aspect of this matter to the Supreme Court of Canada? I placed this question on the order paper last session but it was not answered.

An hon. Member: No answer.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I placed my question on the order paper at Your Honour's direction, asking whether the matter of perpetual renewal leases would be referred to the Supreme Court of Canada. The answer I received on May 8, 1967 was that the perpetual leases