

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, I said "at an early opportunity" which would be on motions tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: I understood the question fully and it was in order, but I wanted to make sure that the answer would also be in order.

Mr. Churchill: The Secretary of State for External Affairs failed to answer the question yesterday and I thought I would revive it.

Mr. Winters: Generally the objectives will be to implement the terms of the communiqué which were agreed upon last July at the time of the prime ministerial meeting here in Ottawa.

[Translation]

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY**QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR BILINGUAL PERSONNEL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Did the minister get in touch personally with the directors of the C.P.R. in order to ask them to provide bilingual staff in the province of Quebec?

[English]

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): The only thing I have done on this matter is to have drawn to the attention of the railway the comments that have been made in the house, and I have reason to believe that this has been done by a member of my staff.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**INQUIRY AS TO REMUNERATION FOR FIRE DAMAGE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport and pertains to a fire which took place along the right of way of the C.N.R. in Richmond and Tyendinaga townships last July 20. This fire was set by the rolling stock of the railway and the farmers along the line sustained considerable damage to crops, fields and fences for which they have not been reimbursed by the C.N.R. When can these farmers expect to receive satisfaction in this matter?

[Mr. Winters.]

Mr. Speaker: Order. Unless the fire is still burning I suggest that the question be put on the order paper.

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

FINANCE**SPEECH BY TRADE MINISTER ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to take this opportunity to ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce, after his pilgrimage to San Francisco where his enunciation of policy with regard to foreign investment in Canada took place, whether a copy of his speech and the sentiments contained therein was made available to his colleague the senior Minister without Portfolio. Would he also let the house in on the secret as to how his particular views, so different from those held by the chairman of that committee, the Minister without Portfolio, will be presented to the committee?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt that the second part of the question is in order. I think this will have to remain a secret for a while yet.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Is parliament to be denied the information that was propagated in San Francisco? We have the right to know it. Why is a different story told in San Francisco than in Canada?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): May I say a word in reply?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the minister may be allowed to answer the question.

Mr. Winters: I simply wish to report that I had a very good and in many ways I think a successful visit to San Francisco and Los Angeles. I heard from the business community there many expressions of confidence in the policies of the Canadian government. I wish to assure the right hon. gentleman that copies of my speech were made available to my colleagues before I delivered it, and I understand that the distribution of the speech was even wider than that.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I would ask the minister this. Which is the policy? Is it the policy enunciated by him, or that declared by the one recently returned to the cabinet ranks?