

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

conference has been drawn up after consultation with the parties concerned? I should also like to know whether he will propose a new formula for the repatriation of the constitution with which all provinces might agree?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the agenda of that conference to be held from December 16 to 18 is being drawn up by officials who have already met four times to prepare an agenda acceptable to all the governments. But I can say to the hon. member that this agenda is based on the decisions taken at the conference held in February and that we will deal with the matters considered at that conference.

**Mr. Asselin:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question.

Could he tell us if the government intends to propose to the provinces a new repatriation formula for the constitution?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Not at this conference, Mr. Speaker.

**NORTHERN AFFAIRS**REPORTED MIGRATION OF ESKIMOS IN  
ARCTIC ISLANDS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Could the minister tell us whether an inquiry is being conducted in order to determine the reasons of an Eskimo migration which is taking place from Sugluk to the islands of the eastern Arctic. Furthermore, if this migration continues, will the government take steps to help those Eskimo families?

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to hear that the Eskimos concerned have been traced and have safely reached the place they were heading for.

To our knowledge the main reason for their migration is that they depend on hunting and fishing to live and they have deemed it advisable to move to another district so as to find new means of subsistence, according to their traditional habits. However, we are investigating the matter in order to see if there could be other reasons for their departure.

[Mr. Asselin.]

[English]

**SHIPBUILDING**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT  
POLICY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, a short time ago in the house I asked the Minister of Defence Production what action the government intended taking with regard to the matter of shipbuilding in Canada, at which time Your Honour suggested that the minister might like to make a statement on motions. Following Your Honour's excellent suggestion I should like to ask the minister whether, following the meeting with the shipbuilding association of Canada, he would like to make a statement on motions on this important matter during his next appearance in the house.

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Defence Production):** Yes, although I do not know whether I would be the appropriate minister. The minister who is organizing the conference at present is the Minister of Transport. However, I am sure this could be arranged.

**Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West):** Mr. Speaker, does the Minister of National Defence have any plans to divert ships coming under his authority to the St. John's dockyard to provide badly needed employment for men in that area? On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Would the hon. member state his point of order?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I think it is a well known fact that the Minister of National Defence is not the one who actually calls for tenders in respect of shipbuilding. I suggest it is the Minister of Defence Production.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** Mr. Speaker, on this question of shipbuilding, since I will probably not be able to get Your Honour's attention tomorrow I should like to give notice of this question to the third acting minister of transport. Will the government indicate what it is doing about this shipbuilding industry and the marine policy that was announced during the last election campaign? Perhaps the minister will make a reply tomorrow when all the ministers are supposed to be here.