

Motions for Papers

it would be treated as confidential. In view of this, I trust the hon. member will agree to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Saltsman: That is not acceptable, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

INTERIM REPORT OF TASK FORCE ON OIL POLICY

Motion No. 16—**Mr. Saltsman:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the interim report of the Task Force on Oil Policy (Northern Development), as mentioned by the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources in *Hansard* on April 25, 1969, at page 7956.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources that the task force on northern oil development is an interdepartmental group of officials reporting on an interim basis directly to ministers on developments as they take place. It is not customary to release such communications but when a final report is made consideration will be given to making it public. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Saltsman: That is acceptable.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

● (2:10 p.m.)

SUBMISSIONS TO ECONOMIC COUNCIL ON COMPETITION

Motion No. 21—**Mr. Orlikow:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of the nearly forty submissions presented to the Economic Council of Canada for its review of Canada's competition policy, as referred to in the Council's report of July 1969 at page 4.

Mr. Barney Danson (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this very thoughtful motion is similar to motion No. 10 by the hon. member in the last session. I am informed by the Economic Council of Canada that the stand taken by them in response to that motion, as reported in *Hansard* of December 17, 1969, at page 2084, has not changed. I would therefore ask that this motion be withdrawn.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, my views have not changed. I still believe in open government and the tabling of reports, and I would like to have them.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PUBLICATIONS DUE TO INCREASE IN POSTAL RATES

Motion No. 27—**Mr. Orlikow:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of all letters received by the Postmaster General from churches, professional

[Mr. Jerome.]

organizations, trade unions, co-operatives, credit unions and private organizations, indicating that as a result of the increase in postal rates they intend to discontinue or curtail their publications.

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, I think this is the third time this motion has been presented, and the reply to it will be the same as on the last occasion, namely, that the motion is not acceptable as the information requested would necessitate a review of over 5,000 files. It is estimated that several hundred man hours would be expended in drawing files and searching for the desired correspondence without taking into consideration the time expended in copying such correspondence.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Côté (Longueuil): I would therefore ask that the motion be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I take the liberty to bring to the attention of the minister, and of other ministers and parliamentary secretaries responding on behalf of the government, that there should be an indication given as briefly as possible on the part of the government whether a motion is accepted or whether it is the wish that it be transferred for debate. I gather that the minister has asked that the motion be dropped.

Mr. Côté (Longueuil): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I cannot agree to that. Since the Post Office does not seem to be delivering the mail it might do this instead.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is transferred for debate.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CAUSEWAY—REPORT BY C. B. HAVER

Motion No. 28—**Mr. Orlikow:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the report by C. B. Haver of Montreal for Northumberland Consultants Limited regarding a review of the cost-benefit evaluation by Stanford Research Institute for a Prince Edward Island causeway as mentioned in answer to Question Number 1,832 reported in *Hansard* July 21, 1969 at page 11374.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am informed by the Minister of Public Works that as stated in reply to question No. 1832 reported in *Hansard* on July 21, 1969, at page 11374, this report was prepared for internal use only and is therefore a privileged document. Under these circumstances I would ask the hon. member to consider withdrawing his motion.

Mr. Orlikow: I cannot agree to that. I thought Information Canada would help us get reports and not deny them to us.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is transferred for debate.