

for this purpose, will he work with the appropriate ministers in the prairie provinces to effect such an investigation of grocery prices.

Mr. Basford: I had one meeting before Christmas with the Attorney General of the Province of Saskatchewan, who was the chairman of the three provincial ministers who were asked by their respective premiers to look at the recommendations of the Batten report. I proposed that Mr. Heald, the Attorney General of the Province of Saskatchewan, hold a meeting with the three provincial ministers in respect of that royal commission report.

ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO TRIBUNAL

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance whether he can advise the house as to when he proposes to appoint the final two members to the anti-dumping tribunal?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, they will be appointed as work develops for the tribunal. I understand that to date there has been only one case referred, and the members we now have are adequate for the work load. The idea is that as the work load increases we will extend the board membership to five members.

Mr. Hales: If it becomes necessary to increase the board membership to five, can the minister assure the house that the other two appointments will be given to well experienced businessmen?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that I believe the appointments to this board are men of as high calibre as any board we have in Canada. I have great confidence in every person appointed to this board.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING DEPARTMENT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister of regional development when the house may expect to receive the long awaited bill in respect of the establishment of his department, so he can proceed with this important work?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): As soon as possible,

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker; and we are anxious to produce the bill.

Mr. Stanfield: Is it possible for the minister to give the house some estimate in terms of days or weeks as to when this might happen?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I am ready to discuss the matter with the house leader, after which perhaps I can give a more precise date.

EXTERNAL AID

POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday I asked the Minister of Transport in his capacity as Acting Prime Minister whether the government's review of Canada's foreign policy included a study of the possibility of increasing our activities under our external aid program. The minister said he would draw this important question to the attention of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I expressed the hope that there might be a statement on this matter this week, and I wonder whether it is now ready?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the specific question is yes. This is part of the government's review of foreign policy, and we are considering both the quantity and the quality of our foreign aid.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Would the Secretary of State for External Affairs indicate when it is expected that Canada will reach the target of 1 per cent of our gross national product in respect of foreign aid?

Mr. Sharp: I cannot be precise, Mr. Speaker, but like the Minister of Finance, I should like to say "as soon as possible."

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt whether that question is in order.

[Translation]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

DELAY IN MAY 7 DELIVERY

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General.

Since many of my constituents have complained about numerous delays in the mail delivery, could the Minister indicate to the