

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the responsible departments the hon. member will realize that in particular several of my colleagues are attending the finance ministers conference at Winnipeg. I can assure him that the roster system will continue in force and that if he has any questions for any of the departments set down for today he can ask his questions.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, this question is prompted by the fact that we must be in a position to be able to prepare ourselves for this phase of parliamentary activity. Does the government intend to revise the list in light of the experience of very poor attendance as a result of the present list?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I suppose we might review it in light of the experience of the very poor attendance of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Horner: The Leader of the Opposition is not responsible for any department.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Now that the government has seen fit to use closure in the committee hearings on the white paper on taxation, is this an indication that it is prepared to use closure in respect of the resulting legislation in order to get it through the House?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

HUMAN RIGHTS

ALLEGED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AT GOOSE BAY U.S. AIR FORCE BASE

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, some days ago I directed a question to the Solicitor General regarding complaints by the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured Peoples concerning racial discrimination at the United States air force base at Goose Bay, Labrador. In view of the fact that Canadians have now expressed concern regarding the investigation by security police of the United States of Canadian girls who are dated by coloured servicemen, a fact which has now been confirmed by one of the American sergeants, I should like to ask the Solicitor General if he has looked into this matter and can give the House any report on the result of his investigation?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, this matter is being quite thoroughly looked into. I am unable to confirm or deny the hon. member's allegations or the information he has but in any event I hope to be able to have a report on the matter brought forward. I regret it has not been possible to do so before now but it is simply because the report was not completed.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES RESPECTING U.S. GOOSE BAY AIR FORCE BASE

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of the fact that the Solicitor General the other day said that only those matters relating to Canadian jurisdiction could be looked into, would the minister undertake to table the agreement between Canada and the United States with relation to the setting up of the U.S. air force base at Goose Bay?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, if there is such an agreement between Canada and the United States I would be willing to table it, but I am wondering whether this agreement was undertaken during the war because at that time it would have been with the British government. I am not quite sure about this. Whatever document we have I am willing to table.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

SALE OF HMCS "BONAVENTURE"—OFFER BY JAMES MARTIN—DISPOSAL TO FOREIGN INTERESTS

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of National Defence. It has something to do with a floating situation which has been pegged. It concerns HMCS *Bonaventure*. Has the government received any offers for the HMCS *Bonaventure*?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): I believe that through the Department of Supply and Services we have received a few offers. I do not know whether they are being actively considered. Some of them were quite challenging and involved things like bringing the *Bonaventure* to the western prairies.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, would the minister please state whether he plans to accept