

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

That, I think, is a correct, factual and objective interpretation of what the Prime Minister said; and it is always wiser to take the words rather than someone else's impression on what the words mean.

**Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming):** Mr. Speaker, does the Secretary of State not think it would be more advantageous to decide what these items are and state them to the house rather than negotiate on them, so that all hon. members would be familiar with the terms of the legislation to be presented and so a date for the recess could be arranged without this negotiation, where new things can be added and new negotiations can be undertaken?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, the remarkable co-operation given at all times by the hon. gentleman leads me to believe that anything he would concur in would speed up the business of the house.

**Mr. Peters:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This is becoming a debate.

(Translation):

[Later:]

**Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Privy Council? Can the minister tell the house why Mr. Claude Morin, deputy minister of federal-provincial affairs in Quebec, came to Ottawa recently?

**WORLD FAIR**

CONGRATULATIONS TO MINISTER—INQUIRY AS TO FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Since the rules of the house often afford us the opportunity to criticize the government, but seldom to congratulate it, I shall take the liberty to do so in compliance with parliamentary practice.

Would the Prime Minister allow me to congratulate the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Deschatelets) on the able manner in which he conducted the preliminary work for the world exhibition.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

[Later:]

**Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public

Works, who is responsible for the world fair. Does the federal government intend to provide financial assistance to the city of Montreal and the province of Quebec concerning the construction of access roads, such as bridges and roadways, for the world fair?

**Hon. J. P. Deschatelets (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, an agreement has been signed by the city of Montreal, the province of Quebec and the federal government, and the obligations of all three parties are clearly set out therein. There is no question of changing that agreement.

**Mr. Pigeon:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received a letter from the provincial minister of highways requesting a financial contribution from the federal government?

**Mr. Deschatelets:** No, Mr. Speaker.

(Text):

**POWER**

COLUMBIA RIVER—TERMINOLOGICAL EXACTITUDE OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND B.C.

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** My question is one for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It is based on discussions I have had with intelligent members of the House of Commons and some of the brightest minds of the press gallery. Can the minister assure the house that the clauses of the agreement between the government of Canada and the government of British Columbia with respect to the Columbia river treaty are so clearly and properly drawn that there would be no possibility of misunderstanding their meaning in the days ahead?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I can think of no better compliment to the hon. gentleman than to recognize his own appreciation of the value of precision in language and the value of lucidity in expression, I am sure the hon. gentleman recognizes these qualities in the document I had the honour of tabling yesterday.

[Later:]

**Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs which has to do with the lucidity which he attributes to the document which he tabled yesterday. I am wondering whether the Secretary of