

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Could the minister indicate some of the principal matters to be discussed?

Mr. Byrne: Housing.

Mr. Nicholson: As I have already announced, the Prime Minister will probably be making the agenda public after it has been settled. The agenda has not yet been settled; we are still working on it.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Labour. I wonder if he remembered not to overlook invitations to the Yukon and Northwest Territories representatives to attend this conference.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Nielsen: As a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, can the minister say whether these two areas of Canada, which suffer the same housing problems, were invited to send representatives?

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Speaker, the invitations were extended by the Prime Minister to the premiers of the provinces.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CIGARETTE SMOKING, ADVERTISING, ETC.**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I refer him to my question of October 20 when I asked:

Because of the urgency of the situation will he very shortly make a statement in the house regarding cigarette smoking, government intervention in respect of advertising and so on?

To which he replied that he would give consideration to the suggestion. Has he had time to think about it, and has he decided to make such a statement?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I did answer at least one question put by the hon. member for Simcoe East since that question was asked by the Leader of the Opposition, and my parliamentary secretary has made several statements on the late show. At the present time there is no intention of making any further statement, except that I have under consideration the sending of this whole question respecting cigarettes and their

effects to a parliamentary committee for study.

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question supplementary to that asked by the Leader of the Opposition in regard to the problem of cigarette smoking and advertising. Can the minister indicate when a decision will be made in regard to referring this whole matter to a committee of the house? Will it be shortly?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker; this week.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE**INQUIRY AS TO PROVINCES ACCEPTING INVITATION TO ATTEND**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. A. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago today I asked the Prime Minister whether he would consider communicating with the provinces, and thereafter would lay on the table of the house and have printed as an appendix to *Votes and Proceedings*, the correspondence relating to the proposed dominion-provincial conference to be held early next year. Has that been done, and when can we expect to have the correspondence laid on the table and printed?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker; I think it was on the same day that I sent telegrams to all the provinces. I do not know whether we have had replies from them all. If we have not, I think we should at least give consideration to tabling the replies of those provinces that have agreed.

POWER**COLUMBIA RIVER—REQUEST FOR FURTHER STUDY OF TREATY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources at the request of a number of trade unions interested in this matter, and I apologize for not sending him notice. Would the minister consider submitting the Columbia river treaty to an appropriate committee for further study, so we could have a parliamentary post mortem to assist the government in establishing national water policies?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I do not think a post mortem would be very useful in this case, as most of the project has already been realized.