

COMMUNICATIONS

GRANT TO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES TO BUILD ELECTRONIC COMPONENT MANUFACTURING PLANT

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Communications. In view of the minister's expressed interest in the development of a Canadian controlled computer and communications industry, would the minister inform the House whether he was consulted by the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion prior to his announcement of a \$6 million grant to International Business Machines Corporation to build an electronic component manufacturing plant in Quebec?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The question as asked is not in order. It might be in order for the Order Paper; perhaps the hon. member would consider putting the question in writing on the Order Paper.

POLLUTION

OTTAWA RIVER—ACTION UNDER CANADA WATER ACT

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Now that Parliament has passed the Canada Water Act, which gives the government all the power it needs to deal with pollution, would the minister take the next opportunity on motions to outline what steps he and his department plan to take to clear up the massive pollution that one can see simply by looking at the Ottawa River from the back of the Parliament Buildings, pollution that is caused by industry dumping pollutants into that once clear body of water?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to consider that suggestion, but for the hon. member's information there is another part to Parliament, the Senate, which has not yet passed the bill.

Mr. Hees: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Have I the assurance of the minister that as soon as that august body passes the bill his department will get on with the job?

Mr. Speaker: Order. That question is hypothetical.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

MIRAMICHI RIVER—PRESENCE OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES—PAYMENT FOR DAMAGE

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. In view of the statement made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry on June 4 in the House that the department has already spent \$500,000 to control toxicity from plant waste of Heath Steel Mines spilled into the Miramichi River, would the minister give the most recent figures on the amounts spent by the government in this area and inform the House whether the efforts of his department to clean up this pollution are having any effect?

Mr. Speaker: Order. Since the first question seeks detailed information I think it is the kind of question that should normally be placed on the Order Paper; I think the hon. member will agree with that.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I might put as my first question. Since the spillage of acids into the Miramichi was due to a construction fault in the piping of a private firm, is this firm going to pay for all the damage caused to the ecology and fisheries resources as well as for cleaning up the area?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): I certainly hope so, Mr. Speaker.

NATIONAL PARKS

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS—FUTURE DEVELOPMENT—HOLDING OF HEARINGS AT INGNISH

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the large-scale protestations from the local residents concerned in regard to the hearings on June 24 with reference to the future development of Cape Breton Highlands National Park, would the minister give consideration not only to holding hearings at Sydney but also at Ingonish in Victoria county, where the local residents would be most affected by any proposed changes?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I will see if it is possible. It has been decided that the hearings would be held in Sydney, and I think it is easy enough for people to get to that city. However, if it is