

[Translation]

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

HUDSON BAY—AGREEMENT AS TO UNDERWATER RESOURCES

Mr. André Fortin (Loitbinière): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister.

Does the government intend to approve the agreement concluded some time ago by Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec on dividing lines regarding the underwater resources of Hudson Bay?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the dividing line of those provinces on Hudson Bay has already been defined by a constitutional statute. The line follows the coast of the provinces and there has been no change. The provinces cannot on their own initiative amend the constitutional declaration.

Mr. Fortin: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Since the federal government has not yet endorsed the agreement between those three provinces, does it intend to do so?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, perhaps my answer was too complex. The answer is positively no. The dividing lines have been established and we shall never agree to such a unilateral redefinition by the provinces.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if I could make the weekly statement of business for the period March 20 to 28 inclusive. As hon. members know, the business for today will be item 57, the government reorganization bill. We hope to complete the committee of the whole stage and also obtain third reading.

Tomorrow, Friday, March 21, the first item to be called will be the superannuation amendment bill for the report stage and third reading. This will be followed by item 56, the bill to amend the Financial Administration Act for report stage and third reading. Next Monday, March 24, we will call as the first item of business item 62, the Maritime Freight Rates Act legislation, which we hope, with the leave of the house, to carry through all stages on that day. As the second item on Monday, time permitting, we will call item 23

Inquiries of the Ministry

with regard to the Canadian Overseas Telecommunications Corporation for the report stage and third reading. As the third item on that day, item 53, the bill with regard to Co-operative Credit Associations for report stage and third reading. The fourth item that day will be item 13, the drug prices bill, at the report stage.

Tuesday, March 25 and Wednesday, March 26 will be opposition allotted days. At the end of the allotted day in this period, a motion will be made for interim supply for the period April 1 to June 30.

On Thursday, March 27, we will call as the first item of business Bill S-15, the amendment to the Food and Drugs Act, for second reading. We will then call item 13, the drug prices bill. On Friday, March 28, we will again call the drug prices bill as the first item. This will be followed by item 52, the amendment to the act to deal with hazardous products, which at the moment is at the report stage.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FORESTRY, AND OTHER NEW DEPARTMENTS

The house resumed from Wednesday, March 19, consideration in committee of Bill C-173, respecting the organization of the government of Canada and matters relating or incidental thereto—Mr. Trudeau—Mr. Faulkner in the chair.

The Chairman: House again in committee of the whole on Bill C-173. The committee will begin consideration of clause 20.

On clause 20—*Definitions.*

• (3:00 p.m.)

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to speak briefly today. To me and to people in disadvantaged areas in Canada, this is a very important occasion. The bill now before this house will, among other important measures, establish the new department of regional economic expansion, and give new emphasis to the government's commitment to reduce the economic disparities which exist between different regions of Canada. There are, I know, differences in detail among those of us