

Inquiries of the Ministry

to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the announcement last week that Ontario planned to create Canada's first Educational Research Institute, and in view of the fact that the Federal Government is involved in many educational and research programs, is it expected that Dr. Forward, Director of the Scientific Secretariat, will establish formal contact with the new body?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Scientific Secretariat will be establishing contact with a number of bodies which are concerned with scientific research, and I believe the particular body to which my hon. friend has referred will be included in that number.

NATIONAL DEFENCE**ARMING OF PLANES IN CANADA WITH NUCLEAR WARHEADS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence, of which I sent him notice earlier today. Have nuclear warheads been delivered to R.C.A.F. Station Comox?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as the House is aware, a program was undertaken to equip CF-101 aircraft assigned to Air Defence Command with the defensive capability—both conventional and nuclear—for which they were designed. This program has now reached the stage where a number of these aircraft have such a capability.

Mr. Barnett: I should like to ask the Minister whether some of these aircraft are located at R.C.A.F. Station Comox.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I do not think it would be advisable for me to give specifics in this regard. A number of aircraft in the air defence system have this capability.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As I understood the hon. Member he asked whether these aircraft had been equipped with nuclear arms, not whether they had the capability of delivering them. The Minister has not answered that question, so I will repeat it. Have they now been equipped with nuclear weapons?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, that terminology, that they have a nuclear capability, has always been used only if these weapons are available to them.

[Mr. Webster.]

Mr. Churchill: Nonsense.

ARMING OF EUROPEAN AIR DIVISION WITH CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence if the planes of the air division in Europe have now been modified so that they are capable of delivering conventional weapons, and have conventional weapons been supplied?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, this program is well under way. I cannot give the precise details but I would imagine that the program is well on its road to completion.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—PROHIBITION ON USE OF FLOATING MOORINGS

On the the orders of the day:

Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. Can he tell me whether orders have been issued prohibiting the use of floating moorings for small boats off the east coast of Vancouver Island immediately south of Nanoose Bay? If so, what is the purpose of this order, which is causing great hardship to commercial fishermen and other small boat owners in that area?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I cannot say offhand because I had no notice of the question, but this area is one where there is a naval installation and it could very well be that some temporary restrictions have been made. I will take the question as notice and get the information for my hon. friend.

LABOUR CONDITIONS**AMENDMENT OF FAIR WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can the Minister tell us whether the proposed amendments to the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act will be brought before the House in sufficient time that they may be passed by July 1, in order that those individuals who come under that legislation will receive the same benefits that will apply to those who come under the Canada Labour Code on that date?