Inquiries of the Ministry

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on March 25, just before the Easter recess, the Prime Minister was good enough to state in reply to a question by me that he would "endeavour forthwith after the Easter recess to place before the house in as complete outline as is then possible the legislative program". I wonder whether the Prime Minister is in a position to do that now, or within a few days?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): I think it would be better if I had a few days in order to look into the matter so the statement will be as complete as possible.

Mr. Pearson: Thank you.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. J. McIlraith (Ottawa West): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. It has to do with question No. 147 on the order paper, which has been standing unanswered since February 18. I wonder when I might receive an answer.

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): I am surprised that the hon. member has not had the answer either Saturday or today, because it passed over my desk on Thursday afternoon, I think, and went forward.

Mr. McIlraith: Would you check up on it?

Mr. Harkness: I will be glad to check up on it again. The only reason I can suggest why he has not received it is some delay in the mail. I am sure the hon, member will get it tomorrow.

Mr. Pickersgill: Ask the Postmaster General.

FINANCE

SUGGESTED REASON FOR STATEMENT ON PROVINCIAL PAYMENTS IN BUDGET ADDRESS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance whether it would be a fair conclusion that the reason he included in his budget the figure of \$1,212 million, representing all payments by the federal government to the provinces, was that he wanted

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(Hamilton South) Rapp
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Milligan Smith (Calgary South)
Montgomery Smith (Lincoln)
More Smith (Winnipeg North)
Morissette Southam

Speakman

North and Victoria) Spencer Muir (Lisgar) Starr Nasserden Stefanson Nesbitt Stewart Nielsen Stinson Nowlan Taylor O'Hurley Thrasher O'Leary Villeneuve Parizeau Walker Pascoe Weichel Pearkes White Winkler-134. Phillips

HOUSING RENTALS, ARMED FORCES, SUMMERSIDE, P.E.I.

Motion No. 87-Mr. Pickersgill:

For a copy of all communications received by Hillcrest Housing Company of Summerside, Prince Edward Island or any solicitor or agent on behalf of that company on the one hand, and the Minister of National Defence or any official of his department or any other department of government since June 21, 1957, respecting the rental of housing units for personnel of the armed forces.

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, for sound and adequate reasons I ask that this motion stand.

Mr. Pickersgill: I shall be glad to comply with the minister's request.

Mr. Speaker: Motion stands.

PROTESTS AGAINST TERM 29, TERMS OF UNION, NEWFOUNDLAND

Motion No. 88-Mr. Pickersgill:

For a copy of all communications received by the Prime Minister since March 25, 1959, protesting the announcement of the government regarding term 29 of the terms of union of Newfoundland with Canada, together with the replies thereto.

Right. Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, subject to the limitation respecting personal or confidential letters or communications.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion, subject to the reservations expressed by the Prime Minister?

Motion agreed to.