

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Later:]

Mr. De Bané: Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question.

Has the minister received realistic counter-proposals from the province of Quebec?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, there have been counter-proposals but I am not in a position to talk about them at this time.

OIL

MARKETING OF PRODUCTION FROM YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, I would like to answer the question which was put to me last Friday by the hon. member for Battleford-Kindersley (Mr. Thomson).

The answer is no.

[English]

WATER RESOURCES

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Is the minister's proposed water act nearly ready for introduction to the house, and can we expect it this session?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, it is our intention to have the water act ready for introduction before the end of this session.

INDUSTRY

PARITY BETWEEN CANADIAN AND U.S. AUTOMOBILE PRICES

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise for the first time in my new position as a left-wing Conservative. In the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce I have a question for the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatoon-Humboldt. In view of the report of all-time high levels reached by shares of the Ford Motor Company on the Toronto Stock Exchange would he request the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to make a statement to the house on the progress he is making with the Ford Motor Company in his attempt to achieve price parity—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Mr. Chrétien.]

TRANSPORT

CORNER BROOK, NFLD.—WITHDRAWAL OF PORT FROM COASTAL SERVICE

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Transport. Would he give most urgent consideration to suspending the recent order of the Canadian Transport Commission withdrawing the port of Corner Brook from the coastal service of the Canadian National system, until such time as a full public hearing may be held to establish a true basis for decision?

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): Mr. Speaker, I will convey that representation to the Transport Commission.

[Later:]

ACTION ON MEASURE RESPECTING MARITIME FREIGHT RATES

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport supplementary to an earlier question asked by the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster, having to do with the freeze on rates in the Atlantic area. Do we understand from the minister's answer that there is also going to be a freeze on transportation policy in the Atlantic area, and when may we expect a statement of policy on that matter, now that the minister has received the opinions of the four premiers on Atlantic transportation problems?

Hon. James Richardson (Acting Minister of Housing): The matter is being given very definite consideration, Mr. Speaker. We have still to hear the final report of the Standing Committee on Transportation but the matter is not being unduly delayed.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

INQUIRY AS TO MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN FIFTH REPORT

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Government House Leader. As the government is not prepared to bring forward the legislation to deal with the Maritime Freight Rates Act would it give immediate consideration to bringing forward debate for concurrence in the fifth report of the Committee on Transport and Communications, so that we can get on with the committee's final recommendations, as mentioned by the Acting Minister of Transport?