

Mr. Speaker: Order, please I doubt whether there can be a supplementary to that question.

Mr. Muir: Possibly I could direct a related question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. In view of the extremely close relationship between the Prime Minister and Mr. Kosygin, can he say whether the Minister of Finance, while delivering his budget speech tonight, will drink Russian vodka as he indicated to the news media?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member's spirited supplementary is not in order.

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CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCES OF FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL ROLES IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Since there were reports that the Victoria conference almost reached agreement on the role of the provinces and the federal government in international affairs and since this question is not part of the charter, would the Prime Minister tell the House if this important matter will be pursued further so that some agreement can be reached?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this, in a sense, is the converse of a question I was asked earlier regarding whether acceptance could be indicated to parts of the package. The answer to this question, as to the previous one, is no. The charter is there and what is in it will be the object of acceptance or refusal. There are some things that some governments would have liked to see in the charter and there are other things that some governments would have liked to see out of the charter. There is a choice there. It is a nice, neat little package which we all have to accept or reject.

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INDUSTRY

JAPANESE OFFER TO BUILD PLANT IN CANADA TO PRODUCE ENRICHED URANIUM—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of interest currently being expressed by Japanese investors in building a uranium enrichment plant in Canada, can the minister indicate whether he has developed a policy in connection with projects of this type? Has he reached a conclusion regarding the value of this kind of development as against encouraging manufacturing?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I do not believe you can weigh this manufacturing against enrichment in economic terms. The hon. member referred to an enrichment plant as against manufacturing. I do not quite know what that means. The government is investigating proposals and

Inquiries of the Ministry

possibilities. I point out through you, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. member that the technology for enrichment is not available in Canada. The Americans are the only ones who have a current project on an economic basis. It has been in production for some years, and the Americans have not made the technology available to any other country.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

LENNOX ISLAND RESERVE—CONSTRUCTION OF LINK TO MAINLAND

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. For some weeks now I have not been able to get an answer from the minister with respect to the construction of an important causeway or bridge linking the Lennox Island Indian reservation with Prince Edward Island. In view of the fact that there is money allotted in this year's estimates for the construction of such a link, can the minister indicate when this important project will begin?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a specific date for two reasons: first, the soil studies undertaken by the Department of Public Works have not yet been completed, and second, the construction of a causeway could change the nature of the education facilities provided for the Indians on that island. Discussions are not going on between my department and the Indians concerning the future of the school on the island.

[English]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Since the loss of the school and teachers' residence was a direct result of inadequate transportation to get firefighting equipment to the island, is the minister saying there must be a choice on the part of the Indians—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is debate and not a question.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

ALLEGED WEIGHT SHORTAGES IN PACKAGES OF HERBICIDE PURCHASED BY FARMERS

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): My question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Has the minister investigated suggestions by farmers that there have been short weights in packages of a certain herbicide they purchased this spring to assist at seeding time? If so, what has the minister done about this?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I have not noticed those particular complaints, Mr. Speaker. I will inquire whether my officials have received any complaints. If the hon. member can give me particulars of the complaints, I will be happy to ensure that short weight does not occur.