

Inquiries of the Ministry

white paper are of sufficient importance that they should have primary attention for the time being.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICENORTHWEST TERRITORIES—INQUIRY
AS TO STATEMENT

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice in his capacity as Attorney General for the Northwest Territories. I understand he has that function. When will he be making a statement regarding the administration of justice in the territories?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Within the next two weeks, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): In view of the fact that the report on Indians and the law has been sort of sloughed off by his colleague because this subject falls to a great extent within the jurisdiction of the provinces, and inasmuch as there is no such impediment regarding the Northwest Territories, will his statement about the administration of justice cover the salient points of that report?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question as asked is not in order.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTREQUEST FOR REFERENCE TO
STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader whether he will bring in an appropriate reference in order that the Standing Committee on Regional Development can continue its study of the various regional development programs in the country, which it did not complete at the last session?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): I will discuss that with my colleague, Mr. Speaker.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSIONATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL—
MEETING AND DIRECTIONS

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, now that the Atlantic Development Council has been appointed I should like to ask the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion when it will begin meeting and whether the minister is willing to make a

[Mr. Gray.]

statement on the directions he gives the council, or table them in the House, in order that we may fully understand its duties and its responsibilities?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I think the Council will meet in Halifax in the very near future, that is next week, if not this week.

Its terms of reference are laid down in the legislation, and I do not expect we will issue other guidelines than those contained in it.

[*English*]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that undoubtedly the minister or his deputies will be giving further directions because of the very general nature of the act, when these directions have been given to the council will he agree to make them public by tabling them or making a statement so that all hon. members may be aware of the council's full responsibilities?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, if general guidelines are to be issued to the Council, then I shall not object to their being tabled in the House.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State.

Could he tell the House when the federal government will appoint a Commissioner of Languages as provided for in the act that was passed during the last session?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): In the near future, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

OLD AGE SECURITY ACT

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDING BILL

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Toward the end of last session there was a list of bills given, many of which were not reached. One of them was a bill to amend the Old Age Security Act. In view of the fact that such a bill was not included in the list of bills