Inquiries of the Ministry

EXPRESSION OF OPINIONS BY MEMBERS PRIOR TO INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN VIENNA—LE DAIN COMMISSION FINAL REPORT

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and it will be brief. I want to know whether Members of Parliament will be given an opportunity to express their opinions on the drug question before the subject is discussed in Vienna in January?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I think there will be considerable opportunity for hon. members to express their views on this question before the appropriate committee. In addition, I believe there will be opportunities for them to express their views to me in the House at various times during the next two months. I want to say that the government's attitude still allows for much flexibility prior to the meeting in January as far as the whole drug question is concerned internationally.

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the minister can advise the House, because of the peculiar position the government finds itself in now in respect of the final report of the Le Dain Commission, if he or the government is considering asking for a postponement of the meetings in Vienna?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, last January when this matter first came up we indicated that in view of the fact there was an inquiry we did not want to be too definite at this particular time. When this comes up again in January there will be several options open to the government which can be decided upon within the next couple of months. One, of course, is that of making reservations in respect of any particular program.

TRANSPORT

CARIBOU, N.S.—IMPROVEMENTS TO FERRY TERMINAL— ADDITIONAL SHIP

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport which I posed earlier and now wish to bring it up to date. When will tenders be called for improvements to the ferry wharf at Caribou, the Nova Scotia terminal of the Wood Islands Service?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we have run into some difficulty because of a piece of land which has to be purchased and which is owned apparently by a very great number of people. We have had to track down the various members of the family. This has been part of the problem. As soon as this has been completed tenders will be called.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. MacEwan: Has the minister or the government decided whether or not another ferry will be added to the service?

Mr. Jamieson: This is under consideration and I think I can say that the considerations are affirmative. I prefer not to go beyond that because I do not know what our relationship is with the two provincial governments concerned at the moment.

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT OF FRONTENAC AND LABELLE BY-ELECTIONS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, 1 should like to put a question to the Prime Minister. Considering the unquestionable anxiousness of the

people and the social unrest in several areas of Quebec, would he consider postponing the by-elections which are to be held in the Frontenac and Labelle constituencies on November 16 next?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I must admit that I have not considered the matter, Mr. Speaker. I do not think that I have the legal power to do so, but I will examine the question put by the hon. member.

[English]

NATIONAL SECURITY

TERRORIST OPERATIONS—ALLEGED TRAINING OF CANADIANS IN CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a further question to the one I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs earlier. In view of the nature of the minister's reply, has the Canadian government made representations to the governments of Algeria and Cuba, and I would take it Jordan as well in view of the reports, objecting to the training of Canadians for FLQ activities in these countries?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, we have made no such objections, nor have we any reason to do so as far as I know.

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Speaker, the minister has indicated, and there have been other indications in the press and elsewhere, that these men have been trained in these countries. Would the minister not make representations?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.