

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[Translation]

**CANADIAN CULTURE****EDUCATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN QUEBEC AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

**Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State.

Would he tell the house whether his meeting with the Quebec minister, Mr. Jean-Noël Tremblay, regarding a federal-provincial agreement on education, indicates the possibility of negotiations in a climate of co-operation and understanding?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, first I must correct the wrong impression under which the hon. member seems to be. Nothing was said about education. Only cultural affairs were discussed.

As a result of the meeting, it has been agreed that the representatives of the two departments would keep mutually informed, that they would endeavour to act in a complementary way and to co-ordinate their activities and that they would meet again in order to determine how this co-operation and this co-ordination could best be put into practice.

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Could the minister tell us whether as a result of having been in touch with Mr. Tremblay, the Quebec minister of Cultural Affairs, he has enriched his own culture?

[English]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****MAINLAND CHINA—U.S. REACTION TO CANADIAN RECOGNITION**

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the minister's revelation a day or so ago that the United States voiced a contrary view to Canada's proposed recognition of China, will the minister undertake shortly to fill in the house and Canadians generally on the details of the U.S. position, since this is something which should be known to Canadians before any decision is taken?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I do not think it is necessary for us to do that. The U.S. secretary of state made a statement which was published

[Mr. Rynard.]

many weeks ago. I will get it for the house and table it if necessary.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** May I ask the minister whether the government intends to go ahead in its negotiations with Red China, regardless of the attitude taken by the United States or by the people of Canada?

**Mr. Sharp:** I hope we make our own decisions in Canada.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Lewis:** It is about time.

**AIR TRANSPORT****ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY AIR FREIGHT CHARGES**

**Mr. Hue Harries (Edmonton-Strathcona):** I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the International Air Transport Association is now discussing international air freight rates at the Athens meeting, I wonder what instructions the Canadian delegation has received to pursue vigorously the removal of the existing discriminatory, unreasonable and prejudicial air freight charges now being levied on all shipments between western Canada and Europe. If there have been no such instructions, I wonder whether the minister would be prepared to intervene to correct this prejudicial situation.

**Mr. Baldwin:** It sounds like a description of Benson's budget.

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** I would be pleased to take these representations to the appropriate officials, and to see that they are given consideration.

**TRANSPORT****BORDEN-TORMENTINE FERRY RATES**

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Finance concerning the passenger and automobile rates on the Borden-Tormentine ferry service, a matter of real urgency in this causeway defunctus era. Can he advise if a decision to increase the rates has been taken, and if so when such an unwelcome measure is to go into effect?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** That is a question that should be referred to the Minister of Transport.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Don't disclaim responsibility for it.