

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

NATIONAL PARKS**BONNE BAY, NFLD.—EFFECT OF PROVINCIAL INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN ON ESTABLISHMENT**

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to my genial friend, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Would he indicate whether he is considering the white paper proposal by the province of Newfoundland to approve an integrated development plan which would superimpose the establishment of a park in the Bonne Bay area?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not concerned by the problem of the Newfoundland government's white paper. My problem deals with the enforcement of the National Parks Act and I have clearly stated in the House—and I have also advised the Newfoundland government—that we will be ready to act when it is willing to surrender the land we need, subject to the usual regulations providing that there must be no mining or oil operations on such land.

[English]

Mr. Marshall: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister indicate if the province has threatened to withdraw from signing the agreement for the Bonne Bay Park if the federal government would not accept the integrated development plan in the white paper?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: No, Mr. Speaker, they did not make any threat concerning the proposal for the setting up of a national park.

[English]

URBAN AFFAIRS**POSITION OF QUEBEC AND OTHER PROVINCES ON ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL-MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of housing. It has to do with his recent announcement indicating that the government is interested in urban councils. I wonder whether the reversal by Mr. Bourassa of Mr. Tessier's indication that he found nothing wrong and as a matter of fact encouraged municipalities to

deal directly with the federal government has been jeopardized as a result of Mr. Bourassa's reversal?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): I am not aware of any reversal, Mr. Speaker. It has been indicated to me that Mr. Bourassa made a statement yesterday afternoon to the effect that he has no objection to municipalities discussing matters directly with the federal government. He agrees with the formation of a tri-level council. He reiterated the position, with which I thoroughly agree, that Quebec will not give up jurisdiction over municipalities. In any event, that was never the intention of our suggestion.

Mr. Alexander: A supplementary question. Can the minister advise whether he has received approval from any of the provinces of the plan submitted by the government? If not, does he intend to hold meetings with their representatives as soon as possible in order to acquire the required approval?

Mr. Andras: As has been indicated, I have had a specific agreement from Mr. Tessier. Prior to that I had some rather casual conversations, not in the precise form that I suggested the other evening and I intend to address myself to a discussion with my counterparts in the provinces as quickly as possible.

POLLUTION**EFFECT OF SPRAYING OF ARSENIC ON HORSESHOE BAY FERRY DOCK**

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): I intended to address my question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry but in his absence I will direct it to his Parliamentary Secretary. It is in connection with complaints emanating from the lower mainland of British Columbia regarding the reported spraying of arsenic on the B.C. Ferries dock at Horseshoe Bay and the danger to the water and fish in that area. Can the Parliamentary Secretary tell the House what the situation is and whether the government is interested in it?

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that we are aware of it. We are checking to see what effect this is having on shellfish in the area. I understand the spraying is done to keep the termites from eating the dock or something of that nature.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They are also in the Liberal party.