

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

NATIONAL CAPITAL

ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT BY QUEBEC GOVERNMENT

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

As I am quite pleased with the minister's statement concerning the national capital, could he tell us whether the Quebec government is aware of the statement he has made today and also if the agreements with Quebec in this connection have been officially accepted?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the Quebec government is fully aware of this and has even been given this morning the general outline of our intentions.

[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCEGENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE—
ADMISSION OF OTHER COUNTRIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Will Canada support the proposal of the United States that Japan and seven other countries be admitted to the Geneva disarmament conference when it reconvenes?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer that question directly. I would have to make some more inquiries; but I can say that Canada does support an enlargement of this committee.

HEALTH AND WELFARESTEPS TO COMBAT POSSIBLE EPIDEMIC OF
GERMAN MEASLES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fears expressed by the National Communicable Disease Centre in the United States that German measles will attain epidemic proportions this year, and the resulting program of massive immunization, will the minister assure the house that his department is also preparing for an epidemic and reveal what steps are being taken?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I can assure the hon. member that the department is assessing all

[Mr. Olson.]

the potentials of such an epidemic as far as Canada is concerned, and that if we find there is grave danger in this area we shall take the proper action.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRSPOSITION OF TAIWAN FOLLOWING POSSIBLE
RECOGNITION BY CANADA OF MAINLAND
CHINA

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): My question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Speaker. I want to ask him whether he was expressing government policy when he was reported as stating in Toronto yesterday that Canada's negotiations for diplomatic recognition of the People's Republic of China are based upon a one China as distinct from a two Chinas policy and, if so, whether this implies that should the negotiations be successful Canada would cease to recognize the Nationalist government at present installed in Taiwan—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will realize that the question as asked is not in proper form. He cannot ask the minister to indicate whether he was expressing government policy in a statement made outside the house.

Mr. Brewin: Then I will rephrase the question and ask the minister directly whether the negotiations for the recognition of the People's Republic of China involve a one China as distinct from a two Chinas policy and, if so, whether this means that the nationalist government in Taiwan would not be recognized as the government of mainland China?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I saw those reports in the paper. If I might be permitted to do so I should like to say that the quotes which appeared in that paper bear very little resemblance to what was said at the meeting, because it was a private meeting at which no reporters were present, and it is contrary to the rules of the Institute of International Affairs that any report should appear.

May I, now, answer the question which has been directly put to me? As I have said on a number of occasions, Canada has a one China policy, and since the nationalist government purports also to be the government of China we cannot recognize both Peking and Taiwan at the same time.

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): In view of the statements made, I believe, by the ambassador for the government of Taiwan, may I ask whether the government of