

INQUIRY FOR RETURN

TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES—APPROVED LISTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Secretary of State if he will please have inquiries made to find whether he can expedite the tabling of a return to an order of the house passed on February 11, as noted on page 237 of *Votes and Proceedings* for that day, which had previously been requested and asked for by myself, with regard to the maintenance of private lists. The order has been outstanding since February 11 and I would appreciate it if it could be expedited.

Hon. F. G. Bradley (Secretary of State): I shall be glad to do all I can to get the order for the hon. member as quickly as possible.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

GOOSE BAY STATION—LEASE OF LAND TO UNITED STATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. F. Higgins (St. John's East): May I direct a question to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Claxton). Will the same general conditions apply to the agreement between Canada and the United States of America with respect to the use of Torbay airport as outlined in the minister's statement of December 5, 1952, relative to Goose Bay airport?

Hon. Brooke Claxton (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): Since the hon. member sent me notice of this question this morning, I have looked at *Hansard* for December 5, 1952 but so far have not found any reference to Goose Bay or Torbay in its pages. However, a statement was made by me in the house on November 28, 1952, and perhaps that is the one to which he refers. It appears on page 174 of *Hansard*. I believe the answer to the hon. member's question is to be found in a statement made by my colleague, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, then acting as Secretary of State for External Affairs, which appears in *Hansard* for December 16 at page 741. In the course of that statement he tabled an agreement between Canada and the United States regarding the lease of land at Goose Bay to the United States. This agreement, and the conditions contained in the agreement, apply only to Goose Bay and not to Torbay. As I understand the question, and in the light of my explanation, the answer would be no, because the lease to

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which I have referred, which governs conditions existing between Canada and the United States regarding Goose Bay, does not apply to Torbay.

Mr. Higgins: May I ask one supplementary question? Are there to be any similar conditions to apply with respect to Torbay?

Mr. Claxton: No, the conditions are quite different. The lease at Goose Bay is for a period of 20 years and covers a fixed portion of land on which the United States is authorized to erect buildings, subject to certain conditions. In the case of Torbay no lease has been entered into, but there has been an arrangement under which the United States air force occupies certain buildings belonging to the government of Canada, on the conditions agreed to from year to year.

THE CORONATION

OBSERVANCE OF JUNE 2 AS A STATUTORY HOLIDAY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Michael Starr (Ontario): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State. June 2 having been proclaimed a statutory holiday, will the government intimate to the management of industries that June 2 is intended to be observed as a statutory holiday in Canada and that wage earners should not suffer the loss of a day's pay?

Hon. F. G. Bradley (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the law with reference to the proclamation of statutory holidays is to be found, as the hon. member knows, upon the statute books. That is the law of the land and presumably various organizations, business and otherwise, will govern themselves accordingly. I do not know of any penalty for the infraction of this statute.

FERRY SERVICE

WOOD ISLAND-CARIBOU—AUTHORIZATION FOR THIRD BOAT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. Chester S. McLure (Queens): I desire to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, but since he is not in the house I shall direct it to the Acting Prime Minister. Has the government or the Minister of Transport refused permission to the Northumberland Ferries Limited to operate a third boat on the Wood Island-Caribou route in order to provide an interim service pending replacement by a new boat which is to be constructed by the federal government? If this statement is correct, as reported in the press, we should know why permission was not granted.