

*Inquiries of the Ministry***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****THE SICOTTE CASE—POSSIBLE ABUSES OF
DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES BY CANADIANS**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, this question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Does the government recognize that the public interest is seriously involved in the Sicotte case, as it has been for some years, and if so may I ask what steps have been taken to have an independent inquiry made into this situation.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have nothing further to add to what the Solicitor General has already said in respect of this question. He has already indicated that the facts are being investigated. I do not think it will be helpful for me to say anything beyond that.

Mr. Fairweather: Mr. Speaker, will the Acting Prime Minister undertake to bring this question, which is presented seriously, to the attention of the Prime Minister for an answer by him when next the right hon. gentleman is in the house.

Mr. Hellyer: The representations made by the hon. member will of course be brought to the Prime Minister's attention.

OIL**MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND
PRESIDENT NIXON—MARKETING POLICIES
DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Acting Prime Minister. Will future oil marketing policies be discussed by the Prime Minister when he meets with President Nixon, and will Canada's policy be one of integration with United States supply, or will there be greater emphasis on developing Canadian and other markets for Canadian oil?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as the Prime Minister said the other day, the agenda for the meeting is not yet set.

Mr. Speaker, may I use this occasion to say, on behalf of the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources that after full consultation with the Canadian government, the government of the United States has made publicly available the text of an exchange of correspondence dated September 25, 1967 between our two countries relating to arrangements for the export of Canadian oil to the United States. The immediate occasion for the

[Mr. Benson.]

declassification of this correspondence has been a request from a company involved in proceedings before the Interstate Commerce Commission relating to the supply of Canadian oil to the Chicago area.

May I now, on behalf of the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, ask the permission of the house to table the documents.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the statement by the minister in reference to a question asked by an hon. member, would he be prepared now to table this correspondence which may cover the period 1967 and 1968, so we may analyse just what the negotiations were?

Mr. Pepin: Would my hon. friend help me get support from the rest of the house to do so?

Mr. Speaker: Has the minister leave to table these documents?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

**ST. ROMUALD, QUE.—USE OF WESTERN OIL IN
NEW REFINERY**

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the government carrying on any discussions with oil or refining interests with respect to the possibility of using western Canadian oil as a source of supply for the new refinery at St. Romuald, Quebec, or does the government intend to undertake such discussions?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I am not acquainted with the details of this matter, Mr. Speaker, but it would certainly be a complete change from the national oil policy as it now stands.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF THE VATICAN**

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister perhaps his parliamentary secretary will take this question as notice. Has the Prime Minister done anything about his undertaking to sample public opinion in regard to Canada's recognition of the Vatican?

Mr. J. E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister): I will see that this question is brought to the Prime Minister's attention, Mr. Speaker.