

Inquiries of the Ministry

In the present case the housing project is located entirely within the municipality of Cory. The municipality of Cory does not wish to purchase these assets at the fair market price, consequently they are to be put up for sale at public auction. If the city of Saskatoon has an interest in these assets it will be free to bid, like any other bidder.

Mr. Douglas: I have a supplementary question. May I ask the minister what will happen if private interests are the highest bidders and consequently acquire this property; because the municipality of Cory within which these assets are located could not possibly service this area, and the city of Saskatoon may refuse to do so? That is the position in which the government has put the entire housing unit.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, presumably a private purchaser, before making a bid and entering into ownership, would make sure that whoever is concerned, either the officials of the municipality of Cory or of Saskatoon, will provide services.

Mr. Douglas: May I ask whether any such arrangement has been entered into with the city of Saskatoon?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, we have not got the names of the bidders as yet, so I am unable to answer as to whether any arrangements have been made.

LABOUR CONDITIONS**QUEBEC—DISCUSSIONS RESPECTING DESIGNATED AREAS**

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Lake St. John): Mr. Speaker, I would also like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry. Did he receive, from the minister of revenue of the province of Quebec, Mr. Kierans, suggestions or information concerning the districts in the province of Quebec which the latter would like to be designated for economic assistance, and when will those districts be announced publicly?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, discussions were held between officials of my department and officials of Mr. Kierans' department, during which information was exchanged, but no agreement has yet been reached.

Mr. Lessard (Lake St. John): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question [Mr. Drury.]

to the Minister of Industry, which question is related to the one I asked him a while ago. He said discussions have taken place between members of his department and those of the department of revenue for the province of Quebec and that they failed to reach an agreement. Will there be other discussions between the same parties with regard to designated areas?

Mr. Drury: Information has been exchanged, Mr. Speaker, and these exchanges will continue.

[*Text*]

WATER RESOURCES**GRAND CANAL—INQUIRY AS TO FEASIBILITY STUDY**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Has the minister received a report of the meeting that was held in North Bay on Friday night in regard to the Grand canal proposal, and is he disposed to recommend that a feasibility survey be made of this important project, especially in view of the critical conditions existing in the great lakes and the St. Lawrence river?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, the government is fully aware of all the consequences of the low water levels of the great lakes. It is also aware of the number of cures that have been offered and, without indicating any agreement on the part of the government that the introduction of new water from outside would be satisfactory, we think that it is imperative that we make a complete study of the proposals which have been made. To that end we have approached the governments of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, suggesting to them that we should like to make studies as to feasibility of such a program. We have received a letter from the province of Ontario indicating that it would be glad to work with us in connection with the Ontario water resources division, and we have also received a tentative reply from the province of Quebec.

Mr. Martineau: Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate the nature of the tentative reply that has been received from the province of Quebec?

Mr. Laing: Mr. Speaker, I can say that I think we will now be able to approach the