

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications): It still has not come to my attention, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Saltsman: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Postmaster General undertake to see why his mail delivery is so slow, since I received a copy five days ago?

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Due to the fact two ministers are here today when they should not be, does this mean that the Prime Minister is weakening on his roster system? May I say, Mr. Speaker, I apologize for reporting upon these two ministers because they are very popular with the opposition.

WATER RESOURCES

OTTAWA RIVER—SUGGESTED FEDERAL ACTION TO MEET SHOCKING STATE OF POLLUTION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Has-tings): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister and ask whether he has observed lately the shocking and even disgusting condition of pollution of the Ottawa River. If so, does he not agree the time has arrived for the federal government to initiate a comprehensive and practical national policy of anti-pollution between the provinces and the federal government to try to do something regarding this matter which is talked about, but about which nothing is done?

[Translation]

EXPROPRIATION

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF FEDERAL ACTION

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, last Monday, the hon. member for Hillsborough raised a question concerning expropriations in Prince Edward Island. I am pleased to inform the house today that we have been in touch with the Attorney General and that we have come to an agreement on that problem.

[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

REDUCTIONS IN GRANTS TO BAND COUNCILS

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): I would like to address a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and Indian Development. I ask the minister whether he

Inquiries of the Ministry

is aware that actions within his department which initially encouraged band councils to assume the management of their own affairs are being seriously jeopardized by later actions to cut the amount of the grants which have been established as the rate under which the program would begin.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I will take the hon. member's question as notice.

[English]

AGRICULTURE

INQUIRY AS TO STATEMENT OF POLICY

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Can the minister indicate to the house whether the government's policy statement on agriculture expected within the next 90 days will deal solely with long term measures, or will it also report the government's policy with respect to emergency steps to be taken as recommended to this house by the agriculture committee?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of any statement having been made by the government respecting the preamble to that question, therefore there can be no reply.

Mr. Burton: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the house expect a statement from the minister before the summer recess with respect to measures to assist agriculture in the emergency situation which it is now facing?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, as has been stated over and over, the house can expect an answer with respect to these and other matters to be given in this house in the usual course.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

NATO—POSSIBLE EARLIER USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BECAUSE OF CUT-BACK IN CANADIAN FORCES

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to ask the Prime Minister a question relating to questions I asked him earlier in the question period. In view of the Prime Minister's difficulty in understanding the logic of the concern of the secretaries of defence for Great Britain and the United States, will the Prime Minister consult with the Minister of National Defence of this government to make certain that the concern,