

Inquiries of the Ministry

to an American naturalist to incubate and try to raise the young birds. Would the minister give immediate consideration to securing the services for this purpose of Mr. Al Oeming, head of the Alberta game farm and Canada's leading zoologist and naturalist, who is the best qualified of all people in North America in raising cranes, so we may have a successful experiment along these lines? Mr. Speaker, the minister nodded his head, and I was not sure whether he agreed with my suggestion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member was making a suggestion rather than asking a question, and I did not think that was in order at this time.

NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD**HALIFAX—PRACTICE FOLLOWED IN MAKING PROMOTIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport, and I ask it in order that the labour problems in Halifax may be alleviated. Is the practice being followed by the National Harbours Board in Halifax with regard to promotions consistent with the practice being followed in other N.H.B. ports?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question should be placed on the order paper.

Mr. Forrestall: With respect, Mr. Speaker, we have in Halifax a very difficult labour situation affecting the raisers of chickens and other livestock, and this practice has been followed for some time—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If the hon. member thinks I am wrong and this is a matter which requires immediate attention, it can be discussed later today.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS**INQUIRY AS TO MEETING OF PRIME MINISTERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. It arises out of reports of the visit of Prime Minister Holt of Australia. Can the Prime Minister tell us what was the Canadian response to the suggestion of Prime Minister Holt that it was unlikely there would be a meeting this year of commonwealth prime ministers? Was there agreement on that thought?

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Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I think it is generally understood—Mr. Wilson also brought up the matter when he was here—that it is not likely there will be a meeting of commonwealth prime ministers this year. But of course that will depend on developments during the rest of the year.

OIL**POSSIBLE INCREASED EXPORTS DUE TO EVENTS IN MIDDLE EAST**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question with reference to the petroleum industry. Has there been any discussion between the Canadian government and the governments of Great Britain and the United States concerning greater exports of petroleum from Canada in view of the dislocation of the industry in the Middle East?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge there have been no discussions directly concerned with the present political situation, but the Prime Minister may have had conversations on that subject of which I am not aware.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I can say there was at least one recent discussion in which I pointed out how secure Canadian sources of petroleum products are.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether measures are being contemplated to facilitate shipping western oil to the eastern ports for export in case the Middle East oil wells are closed?

[*English*]

Mr. Pearson: Not in recent days or weeks, Mr. Speaker.

EXPO '67**POSSIBLE PRESENTATION TO CANADA OF PAVILIONS ON SITE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister with regard to the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Australia. It relates to his very kind offer yesterday to present the Australian pavilion on the Expo site to Canada as a