

[Translation]

NATIONAL CAPITAL

SUGGESTED INTEGRATION OF HULL IN AREA

Mr. Gaston Isabelle (Hull): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a double question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the fact that two Quebec provincial ministers have officially forecast Quebec's separation for 1974, does the Prime Minister intend, first, to withhold the erection of federal buildings in Hull, set for April, and, secondly, to take right now the necessary action to amend section 16 of the Constitution, so that the generous Hull area might become an integral part of the Canadian national capital?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the suggestions brought forward by the hon. member. I would agree they could be helpful only if the blackmail being tried on us should prove effective, but this government has one characteristic: it does not give in to blackmail.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[English]

NATIONAL PARKS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW FACILITY

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In welcoming him back to the House from the fair city of Victoria I would like to ask him whether he can make an announcement about the result of the discussions I understand he had with the members of the cabinet of the province of British Columbia with respect to the establishment of a national park?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I had a meeting with the Minister of Tourism and we have agreed to sign the final agreement at the beginning of April, when I shall next visit British Columbia.

[English]

Mr. Barnett: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell us whether, as a result of the agreement reached with the provincial minister in Victoria, the status of Indian reserve lands in this area has in any way been affected?

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: No, Mr. Speaker. The lands that are within this territory are still reserved for the Indians. We have made representations to the various bands in the area to try to find a solution. We could offer them compensation or more suitable lands, or else ask them for suggestions.

[English]

[Later:]

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I would like to know from the minister whether, as a result of his discussions with his provincial counterpart in Victoria, stage three, the west coast Trail, will be included in the Long Beach national park?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I told British Columbia's Minister of Tourism that if he did not make available to the federal government the third part of the park, that is the trail along the shore of the ocean, there would simply be no park.

CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—MEASURES RESPECTING INCREASE IN RAIL AND HIGHWAY FREIGHT RATES

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Could he tell the House whether the government intends to adopt special measures to prevent the freight rate increase coming into force today and the rise to be implemented on March 15 as well as the increases announced by the officials of the Trucking Association from bringing about an increase in the price of the goods carried thus creating more inflationary pressure?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I must take notice of the question and see if I can give an answer.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NATO—FURTHER CUTS IN CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question to