

Questions

2 and 3. The general practice is that no information is given out as to whether a particular inquiry has been or is being pursued with respect to a particular group of companies or individuals unless and until a report is published.

TRANSFER OF COAL ADMINISTRATION TO ENERGY BOARD

Question No. 2,093—**Mr. MacEwan:**

Is it the intention of the government to remove coal from the administration of the dominion coal board and transfer it to the administration of the national energy board as suggested recently by the parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister?

Hon. W. M. Benidickson (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): Such action would be a matter of government policy and, in accord with standard practice, any such change would be formally announced when policy has been decided.

MAILING PRIVILEGES OF CANADIAN NAZI PARTY

Question No. 2,132—**Mr. Howe (Hamilton South):**

Has the government considered withdrawal of mailing privileges from the Canadian Nazi party, under section 7 of the Post Office Act?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Postmaster General): Section 7 of the Post Office Act authorizes the Postmaster General to take steps to prohibit the use of the mails to a person who, the Postmaster General believes, on reasonable grounds, is by means of the mails committing or attempting to commit an offence or aiding, counselling or procuring any person to commit an offence, or with intent to commit an offence, is using the mails to accomplish such object. The Canadian Nazi party is not known to the Post Office Department but if it is made to appear that any persons so describing themselves, or any other persons, are bringing themselves within section 7, consideration will be given immediately, in accordance with the practice, to prohibiting the use of the mails to such persons.

SURVEY RESPECTING POSSIBLE RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION, NORTHERN B.C.

Question No. 2,157—**Mr. Howard:**

During the past two years has Canadian National Railways undertaken, directly or indirectly, any survey of the possibility of building a railway from any point between Prince Rupert, B.C., and Prince George, B.C., northward toward the Yukon Territories or the state of Alaska and, if so (a) what was the result of the survey, and (b) the action contemplated as a result thereof?

[Mr. Macdonald.]

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The management of Canadian National Railways advise as follows: No survey has been undertaken, directly or indirectly by Canadian National Railways within the past two years concerning the possibility of building a railway northward from a point between Prince Rupert and Prince George.

HEMISPHERE WATER DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Question No. 2,195—**Mr. Howe (Hamilton South):**

Has the Canadian government been approached concerning joint participation with the United States in an engineering study of a hemisphere-wide water development plan, if so, what has been their reply?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The Canadian government has not been approached concerning joint participation with the United States in an engineering study of a hemisphere-wide water development plan. However, representatives of the Ralph M. Parsons Engineering Co. of Los Angeles, the firm which has developed the North American water and power alliance or "NAWAPA" project, have informed officials of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources of details relating to this project.

QUEBEC—RESEARCH INTO RAIN PRODUCTION

Question No. 2,197—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. During the past ten years, has the Department of Transport made or ordered to be made (a) in Canada (b) in the province of Quebec, research work or experiments consisting of seeding clouds to produce rainfall, by means of airplanes or land-based generators?

2. If so (a) what amounts have been spent yearly for such research work or experiments (b) what were the results?

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): 1. The sole research study in which the Department of Transport conducted cloud seeding experiments during the past ten years was associated with the precipitation physics project and confined to two small areas in north-western Quebec contiguous to the Quebec-Ontario boundary. This project was restricted to cloud seeding from aeroplanes and no ground-based generators were used.

2. (a) Amounts spent annually by the Department of Transport in support of the precipitation physics project were as follows: