

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the press report the hon. member refers to. I will look into the matter and report back to the house.

WATER RESOURCES**PEMBINA RIVER—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. He may want to take it as notice. Will he look into the present status of the Pembina river development, which has been approved by the International Joint Commission? Probably the minister will want to report to the house on negotiations between the Manitoba government and the United States authorities.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I should think that question could be asked by putting it on the order paper.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**REQUEST FOR INCREASED GRANTS FOR HEART TRANSPLANT RESEARCH**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Would he consider the establishment of a special medical research grant above the usual research grants for the purpose of stimulating and increasing much needed Canadian research and allowing Canada to take the lead in research pertaining to heart transplants and associated problems?

Mr. Speaker: I doubt whether this is a matter of urgency, but perhaps the minister might be allowed to answer.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I shall be pleased to have this matter referred to the Medical Research Council. As the hon. member knows, that is an autonomous body reporting to parliament through me.

THE MINISTRY**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON MEETING WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question [Mr. Schreyer.]

to the Prime Minister. Will he tell the house what commitments he made yesterday to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce that made them so jubilant about their visit with him?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I told them that this was a good government and likely to remain in power for some time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. My leader suggests that I ask the Prime Minister what truthful thing he told them, but I would not do that. Instead, may I ask the Prime Minister if he made commitments to the Chamber of Commerce in relation to their objections to medicare?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Health and Welfare made the statement on this aspect. I cannot say that the Chamber of Commerce was extraordinarily happy with what he had to say.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Then I had better leave it at that.

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When the Prime Minister finished bragging to the Chamber of Commerce did he tell them that he intended to maintain the Air Canada overhaul base in Winnipeg?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**NATO—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence.

Is it the intention of the government to maintain and even increase its forces in NATO, in view of the pressure exerted by member countries?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): That is precisely a question to which the cabinet has been giving its constant consideration, Mr. Speaker.