

Inquiries of the Ministry

offices of Canada in solving the great dispute existing between the countries these persons head?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I did not go with any proposals for peace. I think the fact that we were interested, and that we took the time to go, may make it clear to the countries concerned that we are taking an objective view and, therefore, that we stand ready, if there is any service that we can perform, to perform it.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTSREQUEST FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR COMMITTEE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, some days ago I asked the government House Leader when we might expect terms of reference with respect to the Public Accounts Committee in order that that committee might begin its work. He indicated that he would take the matter under consideration. Could he now indicate to the House when these terms of reference will be introduced?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, when the original question was asked I indicated that I would take the matter up with the House Leaders, and I did.

Mr. Stanfield: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister assure us that these terms of reference will be brought in promptly, so that this very important committee can begin its important work?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, that will be done as soon as I receive a response from the House Leaders, among whom is included the hon. gentleman's colleague, his party's House Leader.

Mr. Baldwin: That is quite all right. You can go ahead.

TRANSPORTOIL—OFFER TO SELL INFORMATION ON
"MANHATTAN" TRIP

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the minister responsible for northern development. Does the government look with favour on the offer of Humble Oil to sell to Panarctic Oils Limited information and analyses gathered on the recent Arctic trip of the tanker *Manhattan*?

[Mr. McCleave.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question as asked is hardly in order. The hon. member is inviting the minister to give an expression of opinion, so the question is not in order.

HOUSINGREQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO TRANSCAN
CUSTOM HOMES

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of Transcan Custom Homes of Kenora, Ontario, having developed a new concept in prefabricated homes, as a result of which homes will be available for little as \$8,000, and in view of the fact that production and distribution of these homes hinges on an industrial incentive grant from the federal government, will the minister assure the House that this application from Transcan will receive extremely sympathetic consideration and, if possible, approval, so that lower income families of Canada may experience some relief from their housing difficulties?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, all applications receive sympathetic consideration from the department.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTIONESTABLISHMENT OF HOUSE COMMITTEE—
AGENDA OF FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): I would like to address a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he state whether the creation of a committee on constitutional affairs will be discussed at the federal-provincial conference in December and when he will produce the agenda of the conference?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this matter will not be discussed at the conference itself because it obviously only concerns the federal parliament. However, as I have mentioned in this House, we hope that the discussions between the leaders of the various parties will allow us to decide the appropriate time for instituting such a committee.

I only mean to say that perhaps, as usual, after the federal-provincial conference parliament may wish to devote one or two days to