

*Inquiries of the Ministry***CIVIL DEFENCE**

INQUIRY AS TO STUDY OF UNITED STATES PLANS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. P. Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. Did the recent dominion-provincial conference on civil defence study any civil defence plans of the United States of America?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of National Defence): No, Mr. Speaker.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas R. Berger (Vancouver-Burrard): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. Can the minister tell us when he will report to us on the dominion-provincial conference on civil defence held recently, and when he does so will he tell the house what the government policy is in respect of community shelters?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of National Defence): I shall be glad to report on this matter when my estimates are up for consideration.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. N. Turner (St. Lawrence-St. George): I wonder whether the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Finance would undertake to use his influence with his minister to persuade him to table the documents relating to the forward commitments on foreign exchange entered into by the Bank of Canada, before the house rises for the Christmas holidays?

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance): I shall do this, Mr. Speaker.

(Translation):

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Can the Prime Minister tell the house whether he has been asked to set up a royal commission on bilingualism in Canada and whether he intends to accede to that request?

(Text):

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that matter will receive appropriate consideration and when the government is in a position to advise, the house will be informed.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

TRANSLATION OF REPORT OF GILL COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. C. Munro (Hamilton East): I should like to ask the Minister of Labour approximately when the French translation of the Gill report will be ready.

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): As I said the other day, I was informed they were rushing it through and it would be ready as soon as possible.

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): May I ask a supplementary question. In view of the repeated questions on this subject since the beginning of this session, can the minister tell the house whether the government will have this report before Christmas, and in that event will the minister tell us when the government proposes to act with regard to this matter, having promised to do so three years ago?

Mr. Starr: I am more anxious than the hon. member to receive this report, so we can peruse it and decide what course of action we might take in connection with its recommendations.

Mr. Munro: May I ask a supplementary question. On Wednesday last, as reported in the House of Commons debates, the minister said he would advise the house as to how many months had elapsed since—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. No reference can be made to previous debates at this time.

AIR TRANSPORT

PRAIRIE PROVINCES—PROVISION OF SERVICE TO NORTH BATTLEFORD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lucien Lamoureux (Stormont): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Following the cancellation of the prairie air service formerly provided by Pacific Western Air Lines, is the government giving consideration to the urgent problem of providing alternate service to the North Battleford area?

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): Both matters are the subject of intense consideration by the government.