

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

is just as familiar with the reasons for that as I am.

**Mr. Harkness:** May I ask a supplementary question. This pre-production run should have been completed some months ago. I asked the minister, what is the reason for the delay in completing the run of 20 vehicles?

**Mr. Hellyer:** Well, generally speaking I would say three or four years of not pressing it as quickly as might have been the case.

**Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Temiskamingue):** Does the minister agree that this situation is seriously interfering with the operation of our armoured brigade in Europe?

**Mr. Hellyer:** Yes, I think it is a quite unsatisfactory situation.

## INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister.

Could the minister tell the house whether the hon. member for St. Paul's is informally speaking for the government when he is suggesting the merger of the New Democratic party in this house with the Liberal party, since according to the hon. member, the socialist party is only a radical wing of the Liberal party?

[Text]

## TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

WINNIPEG MAINTENANCE BASE—STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT AS TO COST

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers):** Since the Minister of Transport is one of the privileged few who have read and reviewed carefully the Dixon-Speas report, I wonder if he could tell the house whether he agrees with the figure of \$19,800,000 that has been mentioned by Mr. McGregor as the loss to T.C.A. if the maintenance base in Winnipeg is not moved to Montreal.

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, it would be quite improper for me to start disclosing the contents of the Dixon-Speas report, having refused to table it in the house for very good reason.

**Mr. Balcer:** May I ask a supplementary question. Is the minister going to reprimand the president of T.C.A. for doing exactly that?

[Mr. Hellyer.]

**Mr. McIlraith:** I trust that the hon. member for Three Rivers is referring to the earlier discussion this morning, and he will have noticed that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, in raising this matter, was very careful not to indicate Mr. McGregor did that.

## DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

PROVINCIAL PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL POLICIES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fluid and changing relations between the federal government and the provinces, will the provinces in future have any share whatsoever in the development of federal government monetary, tariff and transportation policies?

**Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot recall, other than in the fiscal field, whether that matter was on the agenda, because I was not present during all the discussions; but it would seem to me that some of those matters are exclusively under the jurisdiction of the federal government, whereas others are for discussion between the two levels of government.

## SUGAR

PROTECTION OF CARIBBEAN MARKETS IN MAKING NEW CONTRACTS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Recent newspaper reports have stated the government is considering the possibility of a long term sugar contract with Rhodesia. As any diversion of sugar purchases from Caribbean countries could have a serious effect upon the markets for maritime salted, pickled and smoked fish, would the minister give serious consideration to this problem before entering into any contract that would further disrupt our present salt fish markets?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to assure the hon. gentleman that this kind of consideration will certainly be taken into account in any forthcoming discussions with commonwealth sugar producers, I think I should assure him, however, that I do not believe any of these discussions are likely to have the kind of adverse effects on the trade of the maritime region that he fears.