

Inquiries of the Ministry

tion by the committee of the whole House, would require that the amount by which the aggregate of scholarships, fellowships and bursaries received by an individual in a year exceeds \$500 must be included in his income.

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES ACT—
DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIES****Question No. 1,279—Mr. McGrath:**

Since the inception of the Regional Development Incentives Act, what was the distribution of industries in accordance with the Standard Industrial Classification Manual within each province?

Return tabled.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR—POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION BY
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY—
COMMONWEALTH ACTION TO ACHIEVE CEASEFIRE**

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he has tentatively come to any conclusion as to how long the question of the fighting between India and Pakistan should be left with the Security Council to settle? Has the government of Canada taken any tentative position as to when the matter should be raised in the General Assembly of the United Nations?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think the Security Council should be seized of the matter as long as there is some hope that they can reach an agreed resolution. I am sure the hon. member will agree that would be the best possible outcome. Reference of the matter to the General Assembly is not likely to produce results that will help in settling the dispute.

Mr. Stanfield: Are the minister and his department conferring with other countries about the general question as to how long the matter should be left with the Security Council, in other words, how long the matter should be simply left in the hands of the great powers and other countries represented on the Security Council? Is the Secretary of State for External Affairs actively conferring on this point?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, when I was in Washington on Friday this was one of the subjects I discussed with the Secretary of State of the United States. That was before the discussion had begun. He laid before me his view that what was important now was a ceasefire. As the hon. members know, so far his efforts to get agreement on that have been aborted. Many other efforts have been made. While I am pessimistic, as I think anyone must be, I for one have not yet reached the point where I would want the Security Council to throw in the sponge. I repeat that a discussion in the United Nations General Assembly is not the same as getting an agreed resolution from the Security Council. To have a general discussion in the

[Mr. Mahoney.]

United Nations, as we know from many previous occasions, is more likely to exacerbate than resolve the difficulties.

Mr. Stanfield: Has any effort been made within the Commonwealth to formulate a concerted approach to bring about pressure for a ceasefire?

Mr. Sharp: Before hostilities broke out, Mr. Speaker, several efforts were made by various members of the Commonwealth to offer their good offices but they were rejected. I do not think the prospects now are as good as they were then. In my view, efforts within the Commonwealth are likely to be met with very great difficulty. At the moment, I do not think either side is disposed to do anything but continue the hostilities that unfortunately have begun.

**INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR—SUGGESTED MEETING OF
REPRESENTATIVES WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO
ACHIEVE SOLUTION**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): My supplementary arises out of the last question asked by the Leader of the Opposition. In view of the fact that to all intents and purposes the Security Council appears to have become emasculated as a result of the division of opinion between the U.S.S.R. and Communist China, I ask the minister whether he will give consideration, because of Canada's peculiarly favourable position as a nation highly regarded in both India and Pakistan, to asking these nations to send representatives to Ottawa to meet here with representatives of the government of Canada? A similar course was taken in 1905 by the President of the United States, President Roosevelt, at the time of the Russo-Japanese war. Would the minister consider doing this, because certainly we have a large volume of good will in those countries and no one could suggest we have any interest there other than an interest in world peace?

• (2:30 p.m.)

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I thank the right hon. gentleman for his suggestion. I would point out to him that the Prime Minister of Canada has been in frequent consultation both with Mrs. Gandhi and with President Yahyah Khan; we have done our best to give counsel to both sides. I believe these overtures have been met with sympathetic understanding, but they have not produced the kind of results we would like to see. I do not think the kind of initiative suggested by the right hon. gentleman would be any more successful.

Mr. Diefenbaker: If this suggestion, or anything like it, has not been tried, would the hon. gentleman not think that every possible means should be exhausted in an effort to prevent what is now happening over there which can develop into the potential of a world war?

Mr. Sharp: I can assure the right hon. gentleman that we shall do everything that is reasonable—even, indeed, things which may appear to be unreasonable—if it appears that anything can be done to help bring these hostilities to an end. But I would be misleading the House if I were to suggest that initiatives by us along the lines