reports to the house on behalf of the Atlantic development board. Is he in a position to relay any information on the possibility of opening a new mine in Cape Breton with the assistance of funds from the Atlantic development board?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be very much better to wait until my hon. friend the minister of mines is able to give a thorough answer to this question.

QUEBEC—ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED AREAS

On the orders of the day: [Translation]

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Lake St. John): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Industry.

When I put this question on several occasions last year, I was always told that the matter was under consideration.

Could the minister tell us whether its study is completed and whether he will soon be in a position to inform us of the newly designated areas for economic assistance in the province of Quebec and in Canada?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): Mr. Speaker, this study was carried on during the Christmas holidays. I am sorry that it is not quite completed but I hope to be soon in a position to announce a new policy.

[Text]

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Could I ask the minister whether the formula which is going to be used would also be made available to the house prior to the designation of these areas? I assume the minister will not use the same formula as last year.

Mr. Drury: Any changes in formulas accompanying any possible changes in policy will be announced before they are put into operation.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

QUEBEC—ADMINISTRATION OF ESKIMO AFFAIRS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Inquiries of the Ministry

Has there been an agreement between the federal government and the Quebec premier about the transfer of the jurisdiction of Eskimo affairs to the province of Quebec?

[Text]

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): No, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. In view of the considerable amount of concern which is evident at Churchill, Manitoba, as to whether or not the educational program being carried out by northern affairs for the Eskimo children is going to be on a continuing basis, could the minister consider making a statement in the near future to clear up some of this concern? I might say that there are considerable rumours around town that this is just on a very short term experimental basis.

Mr. Laing: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will.

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR ABOLITION OF THOMPSON COMMISSION

On the orders of the day: [Translation]

Mr. Guy Marcoux (Quebec-Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Does the minister intend to comply with the request of the Quebec premier, Mr. Jean Lesage, and abolish the Thompson commission?

[Text]

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I believe that it would be desirable to table in this house in due course the correspondence in this matter.

FISHERIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—LIMITATION OF COMMERCIAL LICENCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Fisheries. I should like to ask the minister whether he was correctly reported as having announced during a visit to British Columbia the intention of the government to introduce commercial licence limitation; and if this report is correct could he tell the house more