

excuse my curiosity—I should like to ask whether it is true that Mr. Gérin-Lajoie has been offered an administrative position in the federal government?

**Mr. Speaker:** I doubt that the hon. member's curiosity can be satisfied this way.

### NATIONAL PARKS

#### QUEBEC—ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL PARKS

**Mr. Adrien Lamberi (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Can he tell the house whether the federal government plans to set up other national parks, especially in the province of Quebec?

**Mr. Speaker:** I suggest this question is very general in nature; it should be put on the order paper.

[English]

### FORESTRY

#### YUKON—INQUIRY AS TO ACTION TO CONTROL FIRES

**Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley):** A question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Speaker. What action is the minister contemplating, in view of the serious forest fire situation in the Yukon?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the situation prevailing in the Yukon is very serious indeed and that there are now 500 employees fighting the 60 forest fires raging there. Fortunately, there is no loss of life to deplore and the seats of the fires are now under control, which will prevent the destruction of other villages and next, protect the best forests we have in the Yukon.

[English]

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—WATER BOMBING AIRCRAFT FOR FIRE CONTROL

**Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, or to his parliamentary assistant. In view of the fact that we are facing the most critical forest fire situation in British Columbia in years, and in view of the report yesterday that all fire districts are critically short of aircraft, though a number of fires are burning out of control, I would ask

### Inquiries of the Ministry

the minister whether his department has been approached by the British Columbia government or its forest service department with a request for assistance in providing urgently needed water bombing aircraft. If so, how many aircraft have been sent to British Columbia, and are there any additional aircraft available for service in that province?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** The department will be answerable for questions tomorrow, Mr. Speaker.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### INQUIRY AS TO RETURN OF MINISTER FROM SCANDINAVIA

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, and ask him this: When will the Secretary of State for External Affairs stop hanging around Scandinavia, hoping that some Chinese communist will kindly notice that he is there and speak to him, so that he may get back to Canada to do the job he was elected to do?

### PRICE STABILITY, INCOMES AND EMPLOYMENT

#### PROCEDURE ON MOTION TO SET UP SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs when it will be the intention of the government to proceed with what is now government order 91, the motion to set up a special joint committee on consumer affairs, price stability and incomes?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** That is a matter for the house leader, and for discussion through the usual channels.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

#### WEEKLY STATEMENT

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** May I be permitted to ask the Minister of Agriculture, as the acting government house leader, if he can tell us the business for the rest of this week and next week, and from then on?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** I do not believe there have been any changes in the program which the leader of the house, the President of the Privy Council, announced.