

Inquiries of the Ministry

Canadian Pacific Airlines, either present or past, have been consulted by himself or the government in connection with this merger possibility?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I have had informal discussions with numerous people as to what merit if any they think the idea might have. I am sure the Minister without Portfolio has as well. These have been informal conversations of the type I might have had with my hon. friend or any other hon. member on the same subject.

[*Later:*]

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport a question regarding this task force, the chairman of which is the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Richardson) from Manitoba. In view of the fact that, during the election campaign this minister came out in favour of the amalgamation of Canadian Pacific Airlines and Air Canada, does the minister think that hon. gentleman will be able to look at this problem objectively—free from prejudice?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Richardson) is not only one of the most thorough but one of the most objective people I have met in many years.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hellyer: Also, if I may so, he is one of the most selfless, public spirited citizens I know of in Canadian public life.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Baldwin: No commercials.

Mr. Hellyer: I am sure that when he approaches this problem he will approach it with only the interests of the Canadian people in mind.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Now that the minister has placed a halo about the Minister without Portfolio, will he answer the question? What possible objectivity can there be in one who took such a strong stand? That is what I want to know.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suspect the right hon. gentleman would agree with me that this question as asked is argumentative.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Not argumentative, factual.

[*Mr. Nesbitt:*]

AIRPORTS**EXPANSION OF ADJACENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. During the Minister's review of air policy, will he be taking into consideration the question of the expansion of housing developments adjacent to our airports, such as that which necessitated the change in policy for Toronto, and which may cause a change in location of the air terminal?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): I can assure my hon. friend that, as a result of the experience in Toronto and Montreal, I have asked for a full report as to what the consequences of this kind of development might be in the future in respect to our other airports in the other cities. Now is the time to look at it, before the encroachment has reached a stage where it, too, would have to be moved or limited, as far as that expansion is concerned.

We are trying to learn from our experience and project into the future as best we can the information now available to us, so that, where we can, we will protect existing facilities through co-operation with the provinces, or through some other method. We want to see that this is done before it is too late.

[*Translation*]

HOUSING**TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Since the minister has tabled his report, could he now tell the house whether he intends to suggest technological improvements in the field of public housing, in order to meet the urgent needs of this industry?

Mr. Speaker: I regret to advise the hon. member that his question is too general. The information he is asking for should normally be given by the minister on motions.

[*English*]

UNITED NATIONS**INVESTIGATION BY CONTROL COMMISSION OF INFILTRATION**

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External