

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

consideration of the benefit that this would provide for Canadian fishermen, would he speed up these discussions and negotiations so that a firm and favourable decision may be made before the Minister of Fisheries departs for other places?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** He will do his best.

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs if the matter of exclusive fishing zones was a topic which was discussed at the recent Canada-Japanese ministerial meeting?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I did not hear the last part of my hon. friend's question.

**Mr. MacLean (Queens):** Was this same subject discussed at the recent meeting held between Canadian and Japanese ministers?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Not in the same precise terms.

**Mr. Crouse:** A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. On Monday the Secretary of State for External Affairs indicated that he was having discussions on this matter with the minister from France. It is presumed from his remarks that agreement was reached. Would the minister indicate whether the United States is the only country raising objections at the present time to the establishment of geographic co-ordinates and base lines as defined in Bill S-17?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** It would be inaccurate to say that the United States was the only country.

[Translation]

**AGRICULTURE****QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR APPLE GROWERS**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bago):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Could the minister tell the house whether the government of the province of Quebec has asked the federal government to contribute part of the \$900,000 grant being paid to apple growers in the Saint-Hilaire-Rougemont area?

**Mr. Speaker:** I suggest to the hon. member that this question could very easily be placed on the order paper. I admit there is some urgency to it and if he believes that it really deserves an immediate answer, I will allow it.

[Mr. Howard.]

**Mr. Ricard:** A similar question was put by a member of the Social Credit party last week.

**Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

**INDIAN AFFAIRS****REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. My question arises out of reply to my question yesterday. He said that there is a continuing process within his department to afford the court of appeal an opportunity to set out the boundaries of responsibility in respect of both fishing and hunting rights of the Indian people, whether by treaty or by some other arrangement. Apropos of that I would ask the minister whether the committee established by his predecessor, the present Minister of Labour, with respect to fishing and hunting rights of Indian people is still alive. If so, what is it doing?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, that committee has now made a report.

**Mr. Howard:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the report been made public, or will it be made public?

**Mr. Laing:** No, I do not think it will be the intention to make it public. It is under intensive study. It is a very complicated report.

[Translation]

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS****REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON BILINGUAL INSCRIPTIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works.

Since it is reported that last Tuesday night a French inscription reading "Edifice Fédéral", was torn down at a federal building under construction at Port Hope, Ontario, would the minister have the matter investigated and take the necessary steps so that bilingual inscriptions on federal buildings are respected?