

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE RESPECTING TAX
PAYMENTS TO PRAIRIE MUNICIPALITIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Transport. I would ask the minister whether, if he has not already done so, he will give this house an undertaking that he will make a definitive determination whether the C.P.R. intend to give effect in 1967 to its pledge to commence payment of municipal taxes in certain areas of western Canada.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I did give an undertaking during the debate that I would take up this matter with the Canadian Pacific Railway as soon as the bill had been dealt with by parliament, and I intend to keep my word.

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): A supplementary question. Can the minister say whether the same answer would be applicable to the requests of the municipalities in the maritime provinces that C.N.R. properties in those provinces pay full municipal taxes?

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Speaker, that is a matter for determination by the government.

WATER RESOURCES

OTTAWA RIVER—POLLUTION REPORTED
COMING FROM QUEBEC

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack Roxburgh (Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to whom I have given notice. My question arises from a column in yesterday's *Citizen* on the subject of pollution. Mr. Dworkin, the *Citizen's* financial editor, points out that unlike Ontario, because of lack of—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hesitate to interrupt—

Mr. Roxburgh: This is leading up to the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Roxburgh: If you would let me ask it—

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member kindly resume his seat. I would ask him to give me an opportunity of making my speech. I would point out to the hon. member, and indeed to all members, that according to the

Inquiries of the Ministry

rules hon. members should not refer to articles, newspaper reports or telegrams in prefacing their questions. A question should be asked directly.

Mr. Roxburgh: I will do that, Your Honour. I should like to ask the minister whether his department has done anything or is doing anything to correct pollution of the water of the Ottawa river, which is an interprovincial river, which pollution originates from the province of Quebec.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, an investigation in connection with the Ottawa river was conducted in recent years, but if my memory is good the investigation was not concerned with the problem of pollution in particular. However, I will put forward the hon. member's concern in future negotiations with Quebec regarding the matter of water.

I might add that we are now negotiating with Quebec on another water matter, and I will add this to the subject being discussed in the present conversations.

OIL

STEPS TO INCREASE EXPORTS TO UNITED
STATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the questions and answers yesterday with reference to the petroleum industry, is the Prime Minister now in a position to assure the house that the minister of trade or his officials are having serious discussions with the Department of the Interior in the United States of America in connection with increasing export targets for petroleum products, instead of having them cut back?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, discussions have been going on, and are continuing, between representatives of the Canadian government and officials of the United States government in connection with this matter.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NORTH VIET NAM—ACCESS BY MEMBERS OF
CONTROL COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Does the scene