CAPE BRETON-CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING FUTURE OF NO. 18 COLLIERY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): I should like to ask the Minister of Labour if he has had recent correspondence with the executive of the united mine workers union concerning the future of No. 18 colliery?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I received a communication some days ago from the president of the united mine workers, district 26, with regard to this colliery.

Mr. MacInnis: May I ask a supplementary question. My question was whether the minister had answered this request from the executive.

Mr. MacEachen: No, Mr. Speaker. I have been attempting to get the president of the united mine workers on the telephone at Glace Bay during the last two days. I discovered this morning that he is in Washington, but I will be communicating with him as soon as he returns.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

INQUIRIES AS TO FILM RESPECTING PRIME MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Prime Minister a question relating to the Pearson film. My question is not based upon the story in today's Globe and Mail on the film "Mr. Pearson" but is related to it.

In view of the grave doubts that now exist about the actual facts and the information that have been given to us by the government in so far as the government's role in this matter is concerned, as distinct from the C.B.C., is the Prime Minister prepared to offer the opportunity for a debate upon this matter or to give us a full account of the relationships of his office in this film making?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there will be an opportunity, if the hon. gentleman desires to take advantage of it, when interim supply is up for consideration in a few days.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question tion, Mr. Speaker. I wonder what the answer for the Prime Minister. In relation to the of the C.B.C. is to my simple little question. celebrated yet restricted film on the Prime When are we going to have an answer to my Minister, was an oath of secrecy administered question? I should like to know.

20220-275

Inquiries of the Ministry

to Richard Ballentine and his technical crew during the filming of this production prior to their being admitted to meetings of the cabinet or a committee of the cabinet?

Mr. Pearson: To my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, there was no such admission of unauthorized persons, including those mentioned by my hon. friend, to any meeting of cabinet or committee of the cabinet.

Mr. Fairweather: I have another question on the same subject, Mr. Speaker. Have any other journalists or technicians been given equal privileges to view the Prime Minister in a day, or whatever it was, of his life?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It does seem to me that many of these questions should be put on the order paper.

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State, the minister responsible to parliament for the activities of the C.B.C. With respect to the hour long documentary film "Mr. Pearson", can the minister inform the house whether the C.B.C. in its final editing found it necessary to edit out some crude and vulgar references by Mr. Gordon Robertson, Clerk of the Privy Council, with respect to the present Leader of the Opposition?

Mr. Speaker: This question is surely one for the order paper, along with the others.

[Later:]

Mr. Fairweather: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Secretary of State a question about the film "Mr. Pearson". Now that we have had articles in depth about this film in the Winnipeg Fress Press of last Thursday and the Globe and Mail of today, would the Secretary of State urge upon the C.B.C. the necessity of answering the questions that have been put on the order paper by various members about the machinations surrounding this restricted film?

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I have received an answer to the question put to me by the hon. member for Port Arthur on this matter, and I am informed by the C.B.C. that there is no change in the decision already reached on this subject.

Mr. Fairweather: A supplementary ques-