

new international airport, can the minister tell the house whether he has set the date of that meeting?

[English]

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, Mr. Dozois' telegram was in reference to a further meeting with Mr. Lussier to continue the discussions undertaken some months ago with respect to a site for the new Montreal international airport. I indicated to Mr. Lussier in December that it would only be after the first of the year the government would have available to it the information required to continue with these discussions, and that I would advise him some time in the new year when a meeting would be possible. Subsequently we have been able to arrange a mutually convenient time for a meeting and I hope we will be able to come to some meeting of minds in the not too distant future, so that a definitive choice can be made by the government to enable us to go ahead with the airport.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May I take a brief moment to bring to the attention of hon. members that we will be running short of time very quickly. I ask the co-operation of hon. members to give as many members as possible an opportunity to ask questions. I would suggest that the questions be short, that there be not too many supplementaries and that the answers also be brief.

[Translation]

Mr. La Salle: I should like to ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Could the minister tell us whether, in his opinion, Mr. Dozois' statements are of a personal nature or if they would commit the Québec government?

Mr. Speaker: I do not believe the question to be in order.

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question of the Minister of Transport.

In view of the fact that we have learned from authorized sources, in fact from a Québec government publication, that the government of that province was recommending the south shore of the St. Lawrence river for the site of the future international airport, does the federal government intend to abide by the Québec government decision to choose the south shore as the site for the new airport?

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

Mr. Hellyer: The ultimate choice is one which must be taken by the federal government, which has the primary responsibility in these matters.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hellyer: I do not think it would be helpful for me at the moment to enter into a discussion concerning the relevant merits of the different sites proposed, because I really feel that would not be in keeping with the agreement we made with the government of Quebec some weeks ago that we would carry on discussions at a technical level before reaching a decision and making our decision public. So I would prefer not to comment on the statement of the hon. member.

FISHERIES

LOBSTERS—APPEAL COMMITTEES TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct this question to the Minister of Fisheries. The minister announced that, effective immediately, an upper limit will be placed on the number of boats permitted to fish for lobsters in the maritime provinces in 1969. In view of new lobster fishermen who may be desirous of entering the industry, will the minister indicate what steps have been taken to establish local appeal committees to review applications of boat owners.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking a question which is lengthy and which should be made on motions. I wonder whether he might like to ask the minister to make a statement on motions.

[Later:]

Mr. Crouse: In view of Your Honour's ruling, I should like to ask the Minister of Fisheries whether he would be prepared to make a statement tomorrow on motions concerning the question I raised.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): I certainly would, Mr. Speaker, but I think the press release I made yesterday covers this matter. There will be appeal committees in each of the provinces.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, this question is for the Prime Minister.