

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, July 11, 1963

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

BANKING AND COMMERCE

SECOND AND THIRD REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE—CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT

Mr. Edmund Asselin (Notre Dame de Grace) presented the second and third reports of the standing committee on banking and commerce, and moved that the third report be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

FINANCE

TABLING OF OPINION ON VALIDITY OF CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): On July 5 the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre asked the Acting Prime Minister for a legal opinion on the validity or otherwise of the appointment of certain persons to carry out special services in the Department of Finance.

I would like to table copies of a letter addressed on July 8, 1963, to the Clerk of the Privy Council by the deputy attorney general on this subject.

TRADE

CUBA—INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT POLICY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey North): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Is it the policy of this government to promote increased trade with Cuba, similar to the approach made by the former Conservative administration?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): In view of the fact that I have not had notice of this question I think I should perhaps answer it tomorrow.

Mr. Noble: A supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I think we should leave it there. The minister said he would take this as notice and answer the question tomorrow.

[Later:]

Mr. Noble: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Now that fish rationing has ended in Cuba, will the government make an effort to sell more fish products to that country?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, as I said in reply to an earlier question, I think I should deal with these questions of trade relations with Cuba all at once, and I will bear this question in mind when I am making my answer tomorrow.

(Translation):

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND—RESOLUTION OF QUEBEC LEGISLATURE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Could the Prime Minister tell us whether he has received the resolution unanimously carried by the Quebec legislature condemning the bill of federal assistance to municipalities, as well as an explanatory letter from Premier Lesage?

(Text):

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): To the best of my knowledge no such resolution has been received, but I will inquire when I go back to my office.

(Translation):

Mr. Balcer: I wish to put a supplementary question Mr. Speaker. Is the Prime Minister aware that Premier Lesage tabled this morning in the legislature a letter written to the Prime Minister of Canada in this connection?

(Text):

Mr. Pearson: No, Mr. Speaker. I will look into the matter immediately.

[Later:]

(Translation):

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question arising out of what was said a while ago. Has the Prime Minister taken into consideration the protests and remarks of the premier of Quebec in respect to that bill?