January 21, 1970

COMMONS DEBATES

The interdepartmental committee on water has not yet completed its study of this matter of water pollution through the input of phosphates. As the minister stated in the House of Commons on November 4, he is to receive the ICW recommendations as to appropriate federal government action in this regard and refer them to his colleagues for consideration.

The minister expects to be in a position to take this action in the latter part of January or in February following completion of the ICW study of and report on this very complex subject. I would therefore request withdrawal of this motion.

Mr. Harding: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Motion withdrawn.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHEAT BOARD AND V/O EXPORTKHLEB

Motion No. 304-Mr. Burton:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the agreement entered into in June 1966 between the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O Exportkhleb for the sale of Canadian wheat and flour to Russia and a copy of any agreement, letter of understanding or other documents pertaining to the extension of this agreement beyond its expiry date.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang) wishes to inform the hon. member that it is not the practice of the government to make public details of Canadian Wheat Board sales agreements as such information might be prejudicial to the board's marketing operations. In view of this, the minister would ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Burton: I cannot agree to withdraw this motion, Mr. Speaker, and I would ask that the question be put to a vote.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is transferred for debate.

CANADA-QUEBEC AGREEMENT ON LANGUAGE AND CITIZENSHIP COURSES

Motion No. 310-Mr. Orlikow:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all documents covering the agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of Quebec under which 50% of the cost of language and citizenship courses available to Quebec immigrants will be paid for by the federal government.

Motions for Papers

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): There is an agreement between the government of Canada and the province of Quebec covering the sharing of costs of language and citizenship courses. If that is the document required by the hon. member, the motion is accepted subject to the consent of the province of Quebec.

Mr. Orlikow: That is agreeable, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservation expressed by the minister, does the motion carry?

Some hon. Members: Carried.

Motion agreed to.

RECONNAISSANCE REPORT ON NORTHERN MILITARY EXERCISES

Motion No. 325-Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley):

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the reconnaissance report undertaken by General Gilles Turcot, Commander of the DND Mobile Command, regarding military exercises in the Canadian North.

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): As this report is an internal military document which was prepared by a group of officers for the Commander, Mobile Command, and Canadian Forces Headquarters, it is considered to be privileged. Under the circumstances I wonder whether the hon. member would be prepared to drop his motion?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, had the minister communicated with me as he did with the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville, I might have agreed. As it is, I should like the motion transferred for debate.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Burton: Mr. Speaker, I wish to make an inquiry about motion No. 256 which has been on the Order Paper since November 20. I wonder when the government might be prepared to call this motion.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I shall inquire of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and try to reply to the question.