

wide survey of public information, educational activities relating to water resources and water pollution, as mentioned in answer to Question Number 1,323 of the past Session.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources advises that this report was prepared for internal working purposes. It contains information obtained on a confidential basis and must, therefore, be treated as privileged. In the circumstances, I respectfully ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Skoberg: Mr. Speaker, any information dealing with water resources should be public and should be made available to the House.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

CONSULTANT REPORT REGARDING QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF POLICY AND PLANNING BRANCH

Motion No. 90—**Mr. Skoberg:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the consultant report by Operation Research Industries Limited undertaken for the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources regarding a quantitative assessment of the Policy and Planning Branch as mentioned in answer to Question Number 2,452 of the past Session.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources advises that the report is an internal working document which was prepared to assist unit management in determining what organizational changes might be required to increase efficiency of operations and its release is not considered to be in the public interest. Under these circumstances, it is requested that the hon. member withdraw his motion.

Mr. Skoberg: I call for the question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

CONSULTANT REPORT REGARDING REVIEW OF WATER SURVEY OF CANADA DIVISION

Motion No. 91—**Mr. Skoberg:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the consultant report by James F. MacLaren Limited undertaken for the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources regarding a review of the Water Survey of Canada Division as mentioned in answer to Question Number 2,452 of the past Session.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources advises that this study, which was not completed beyond the preliminary stage, was prepared for internal working purposes only and its

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release is not considered in the public interest. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Skoberg: I agree, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING PROPOSED SALE OF LAND AT REGINA AIRPORT

Motion No. 170—**Mr. Burton:**

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all correspondence and other documents concerning the proposed sale of land owned by the City of Regina at the Regina Airport to the Department of Transport.

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The minister met with members of the Regina City Council on February 13, 1971, and discussions continue. It is not considered in the best public interest, or in the interest of the Ministry of Transport, to release documents or correspondence concerning the negotiations for the purchase of the lands in question. In view of this, the hon. member may be willing to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Burton: Mr. Speaker, there have been many questions in the House on this matter, some of which have been answered by the minister. There have also been many press reports. I see no reason why this information cannot be supplied and I call for the question.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House wish the Chair to put the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Some hon. Members: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: I hear vague noises suggesting that perhaps there is a request that the motion should be transferred for debate. I suggest that if this is the request of the government, it should be made clear to the Chair. I do not think the Chair should be expected to act on vague suggestions.

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, to expedite matters I make such a request.

Mr. Speaker: I do not want to be difficult, but I suggest that if members of the government wish a motion transferred for debate this should be clearly stated. With the noise it is sometimes very difficult for the Chair to find out what is suggested either by the opposition or the government in relation to such motions. Transferred for debate.