

Inquiries of the Ministry

for sedimentologists in the United States through United States trade magazines—proof of which I will send to the minister—and, if so, why is this being done at a time when university graduates are walking the streets in Canada?

• (1140)

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to see the advertisement in question and find out the reason for this.

Mr. Bell: Does the minister subscribe to a policy of hiring anyone from the United States, Scotland or anywhere else when college graduates in Canada are out of work?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

MEAFORD TANK RANGE—SUGGESTED TENDER CALL TO PEOPLE OUTSIDE CANADA TO REMOVE UNEXPLODED AMMUNITION—REPAIR OF BUILDINGS

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. In view of the fact the Department of National Defence has stated it does not have sufficient competent staff to decontaminate the Meaford tank range, will the government give consideration to advertising for tenders from interested, qualified people outside the country to decontaminate the range?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Defence): I do not think so, Mr. Speaker; the cost would be prohibitive.

Mr. Noble: Is it the intention of the government to repair any of the buildings on the range, some of which are now in a state of progressive deterioration?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I do not know offhand but I shall be glad to make inquiries.

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CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY

ALLEGED REFUSAL BY INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CORPORATION TO PERMIT VISIT TO RESOLUTION ISLAND BY NORTHWEST TERRITORIES COUNCILLOR—CANADIAN POLICY

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it arises out of the question asked earlier by the hon. member for Spadina. Are there today in the Arctic Islands of our country areas in regard to which the decision whether a Canadian shall enter is determined by military regulations of the United States, and that no one can go on those islands without the consent of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation of New Jersey? I ask this question because, if such is the fact, it constitutes a flagrant invasion of the rights of Canadians.

[Mr. Bell.]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Defence is looking into the facts which may or may not be as represented in this newspaper article. I think that until we know what the facts really are it would be imprudent to answer the question.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I am trying to find out what is the basis for the facts. Has the government of Canada under an exchange of notes granted certain rights whereby portions of our northern areas are subject to United States military law and Canadians are denied their right to be in the areas in question? I repeat has there been any such arrangement made with the United States?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I would doubt that there are any arrangements of such a kind in effect except those relating to security. These would affect not only Canadians but anybody else who wanted to enter upon property where matters are secret in the interest of the security of Canada. I am sure the right hon. gentleman would agree that this would be quite appropriate.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I have asked a simple question. The Secretary of State for External Affairs says that there may be or there may not be such arrangements. During his administration, or that of his predecessor, has the government of Canada agreed that a United States corporation shall determine Canadians' rights to be in the north? Do not excuse it by reason of security.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the minister might reply briefly. The hon. member for Red Deer.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPORTED REQUEST TO GROUP VISITING QUEBEC HOUSE IN PARIS TO REMOVE CANADIAN FLAG LAPEL PINS

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister and it probably involves his own position as Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is any further report available to the House on the recent charge that the wearing of Canadian maple leaf lapel buttons was prohibited at Quebec House in Paris? Does the minister intend to make a full statement to the House about this very serious matter?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that question was asked yesterday.

[Later:]

[Translation]

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question supplementary to the one directed to him about the incident at Quebec House in Paris.

Is the minister aware that Mr. Michaud would have been recalled in Quebec and arrived there yesterday?