

Mr. Macquarrie: May I ask the right hon. Prime Minister whether the Secretary of State for External Affairs was speaking for the government at that time?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker, he was speaking for the government.

PROPOSED TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE SYSTEM—REQUEST THAT COMMITTEE INQUIRY BE PROCEEDED WITH

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the revelations at the United States Senate hearing yesterday, where it was obvious to Secretary of the Interior Morton and others that further studies would have to be made, may I ask the Prime Minister once more whether or not at this stage he is willing to instruct the government House leader to withdraw his untimely support for the Conservative motion which prevented this House from carrying out such a study on the effects in Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have raised the matter with the House leader and we did indeed discuss it. We feel that the matter should indeed be seized by parliamentarians, but there is a committee on national resources, I believe, that is also enabled to study such matters. Consideration will be given to the form in which discussions can take place.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the House has no knowledge whatsoever of the committee on national resources seizing itself of this problem, and as we have no advice or information that the House will instruct that committee to take up this problem, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he will ask one of his ministers responsible to give instructions through the House to that committee to carry out such a study?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the position is that there are other members of other committees who can do this job equally as well, and it is a matter of deciding which committee should be doing this job.

An hon. Member: Hard luck!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the Leader of the Opposition has a supplementary question.

PROPOSED TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE SYSTEM—PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING GOVERNMENT POLICY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in view of the suggestion by the right hon. Prime Minister, as I understood him, that the policy of his government will be further elaborated in the course of the meeting next week in Washington, is the policy of the government with regard to the trans-Alaska pipeline system being elaborated and worked out by officials rather than by ministers of the government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Just like the hon. member's question, Mr. Speaker. While I am on my feet—

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

An hon. Member: What happened? Did you have a bad night?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe there are one or two supplementary questions to be asked on the subject.

An hon. Member: It's time for another holiday.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I asked the right hon. Prime Minister a serious question. Is government policy going to be worked out by the government officials who will visit Washington next week?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that the policy of the government is the policy of the elected representatives of the people, but surely the Leader of the Opposition knows that officials can also contribute toward this type of policy formation. It is not extraordinary that meetings at the international level be held between officials.

Mr. Stanfield: You said they would elaborate the policy.

Mr. Trudeau: I cannot quite understand what the difficulty of the Leader of the Opposition is.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate that the right hon. Prime Minister is anxious to refer to another question, but before we go on to the matter the right hon. gentleman has in mind I will allow a last supplementary by the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond, following which the Prime Minister will be allowed to refer to the other matter. Then, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, since the Prime Minister has been struggling to maintain the floor in order to impart some knowledge to the House, I was about to ask him to give the House that information.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the hon. member for Cape-Breton-East Richmond for his assistance to the Chair.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate the hon. gentleman's continuing assistance.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond has responded to the spirit of co-operation I wanted to have prevail.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

EXPIRY OF PUBLIC ORDER (TEMPORARY MEASURES) ACT—
TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PREMIER
OF QUEBEC AND PRIME MINISTER

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like the floor to table the correspondence the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster asked me about