Motions for Papers

authority I can exercise at this time unless there is consent to change that practice.

Perhaps there might be consultation in light of further examination of the documents to be tabled in response, if that is to be the case, or whatever responses are to be made, to see whether or not agreement can be reached for handling this matter in a different way; otherwise, to call them seriatim at some time in the future.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, your comment was to call them at some time in the future. We are on motions now; I do not see why we just do not go ahead and call the motions. I know it will take some time, but I do not think the government should be permitted not to call them. They have indicated they are ready to call them, and the member is entitled to have them called.

Mr. Speaker: I may have made a mistaken assumption that the two hon. parliamentary secretaries involved were prepared to proceed with them on one basis, but not on the other. It may be, now, that they are prepared to proceed with them individually, in which case I will call them one at a time.

[Text]

COPIES OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO DESIGNATION OF B.C. HYDRO AUTHORITY UNDER TREATY WITH UNITED STATES

Motion No. 1-Mr. Brisco:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all papers and documents, studies, reports and correspondence between the government and the Province of British Columbia and/or British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, relating to the duties and functions to be carried out by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority in its capacity as the designated entity under the Columbia River Treaty and subsequent protocol endorsed by the Governments of Canada and the United States, specifically under Article XIV of the Treaty, including any and all exchanges of notes between the Governments of Canada and the United States exchanged under Article XIV and any other material, documents, papers studies and correspondence in the possession of the government concerning the possibility of designating another entity than British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority as the agent of Canada under the Treaty, or the appointment of a second Canadian entity under the Treaty to share responsibility with British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, or the empowering or charging of British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority with the responsibility of ensuring the greater stability of the Arrow Lakes and the suspension of all progress on the Kootenay River Diversion project.

[Translation]

Mr. J.-Gilles Lamontagne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Concerning Motion No. 1, the answer is as follows: The production of these documents would necessitate long and extensive research into our records, but the important facts, including the duties and functions to be carried out by the designated entity and the related documents, can be found in "The Columbia River Treaty and Protocol—A Presentation. February 1964". This document is available in the Parliamentary Library and at the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

There must have been no other protocol, because there were no exchanges of notes or other documents concerning the possibility of designating another entity to share responsibilities with the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, the stability of the Arrow Lakes or the progress on the Kootenay River diversion project.

[English]

I therefore request that the hon, member withdraw his motion.

Mr. Brisco: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

[Text]

COPY OF LETTER FROM DR. O. J. C. RUNNALLS TO GULF MINERALS CANADA LTD.

Motion No. 7—Mr. Stevens:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the letter dated September 1975 from Dr. O. J. C. Runnalls to Gulf Minerals Canada Ltd. advising them of the fourth quarter assessment of dues to SERU otherwise known in English as the Uranium Marketing Research Association or as the Uranium Club.

[Translation]

Mr. J.-Gilles Lamontagne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, concerning Motion No. 7, the requested document is of a confidential nature and therefore its content cannot be revealed. Consequently, I would ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

[English]

Mr. Stevens: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

[Text]

COPY OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LEGAL OPINION RELATING TO URANIUM CARTEL

Motion No. 8—Mr. Stevens:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the Department of Justice legal opinion referred to by the Right Honourable the Prime Minister on August 4, 1977 in the House of Commons touching on the uranium cartel.

[English]

Mr. Roger Young (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): The legal advice provided by law officers of the Crown on a matter of state policy falls in the class of confidential documents. I would, therefore, ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Stevens: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.