February 18, 1970

Mr. Max Salisman (Waterloo): Agreed, to be pursued in committee when the estimates appear.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

REPORT FOR DEPT. OF FISHERIES AND FOR-ESTRY BY AIC-WINSPEAR DOANE LIMITED

Motion No. 316-Mr. Skoberg:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the consultant report by AIC-Winspear Doane Limited, undertaken for the Department of Fisheries and Forestry as mentioned in answer to Question number 2,452 of the past Session.

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, I understand that the subject matter covered by this motion has been discussed with the hon. member and that he is prepared to withdraw the motion, in view of the fact that the information he requests will be provided in response to motion 317.

Mr. Skoberg: In view of the co-operative manner of this department, Mr. Speaker, I agree.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

REPORT FOR DEPT. OF FISHERIES AND FOR-ESTRY BY INBUCON SERVICES LIMITED

Motion No. 317-Mr. Skoberg:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the consultant report by Inbucon Services Limited undertaken for the Department of Fisheries and Forestry as mentioned in answer to Question Number 2,452 of the past Session.

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, this study project was financed jointly by the governent of Canada and the government of Newfoundland. It contained detailed analyses of vessel and plant costs and of the financial position of firms engaged in the frozen groundfish industry in Newfoundland. This aspect of the report could not be tabled since it includes detailed information on the financial posi ion of individual companies. However, the consultants did prepare a separate, more general report in which references to individual firms and their operations were eliminated. The government is prepared to table this part of the report subject to receiving consent from the government of Newfoundland.

Mr. Skoberg: I agree, until I see the rest of the report.

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservations and conditions expressed by Parliamentary Secretary the motion is adopted.

21701-271

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Information Canada!

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motion stand? The hon. member for Skeena.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, there is a misuse and abuse of the rules on the part of the government members seeking to prevent effectively a vote in most cases and even a discussion of the subject matter of these various motions for papers. Already on the Order Paper for debate under the item which comes up on alternate Thursdays there are 50 such notices of motions listed, and to them will be added the ones transferred today. In fact, the first three set down for consideration during the hour available on Thursday were transferred on November 19, almost three months ago to the day; tomorrow it will be three months. I think the misuse of this particular section of the rules which prevents information being given by the government to the public should be looked at. I submit the rules are being abused. Some alternative method must be discovered. Perhaps there ought to be a short debate about the need for providing the information. These matters ought not to be permitted to be swept under the rug in the current fashion.

Mr. Speaker: The point raised by the hon. member has been raised in the past. Following a brief discussion in the House, it was agreed by representatives of the parties that the whole matter of private members' motions, resolutions and private bills might be considered in due course, and perhaps at an early date, by the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. I believe there is a move afoot among representatives of the parties to have the matter considered. I assume that the representations which have been made by the hon. member for Skeena will be taken into account.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—ACTION TO SEEK CO-OPERATION OF UNIONS—APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Now that the government has completed its meetings with the premiers