

*Inquiries of the Ministry**(Text):*RED CHINA—INQUIRY AS TO RECOGNITION
BY CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): I wish to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is his government considering at this time formal diplomatic recognition by Canada of red China?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): As the hon. gentleman knows, these questions are always under review, and it is in accordance with our tradition that the government shall determine when government policy will be announced.

NATO—PARTICIPATION OF CANADIAN OFFICIALS
IN DRAFTING OF PRESS RELEASES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle): I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs if any Canadian officials have participated in the drafting of the final official press releases for the NATO ministerial conference to be held in Ottawa this week?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): As my hon. friend knows, that is a wholly improper question.

AIR TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON DISPUTE RESPECTING
INTERNATIONAL FARES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Does the hon. gentleman have anything to report to the house regarding Canada's position in the international dispute relating to trans-Atlantic air fares?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): I can report that the meeting of the air lines which took place in Bermuda last week was adjourned on Saturday night and will be continued in Montreal on Wednesday.

ALLEGED REFUSAL OF CANADIAN NATO
DELEGATION TO USE T.C.A.

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): On Friday last the hon. member for Three Rivers asked me why the Canadian NATO delegation in Paris refused to fly the Atlantic by T.C.A. to attend the NATO meeting in Ottawa which opens this week.

There was no such refusal. Normally Canadian government officials flying to and from Canada in the course of their duties travel by T.C.A. whenever this is possible. In

the particular case referred to, it was necessary for the Canadian permanent representative to NATO and two of his officers to be in Paris for a meeting of the NATO council on Wednesday, May 15, and to be on hand in Ottawa in time to confer with the secretary general of NATO, Mr. Stikker, here on Friday May 17. This meant travelling on Thursday, May 16, and since there was no T.C.A. flight from Paris to Canada on that day it was necessary to use another carrier. The party travelled economy class and, before leaving Paris, booked their return flight from Canada on T.C.A. and will again travel economy class.

COMBINES

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING TIED SALES BY
SERVICE STATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Does the minister intend to implement the recommendations of the restrictive trade practices commission concerning amendments to the Combines Investigation Act to control the practice of tied sales imposed upon service stations by certain petroleum companies?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Justice): The hon. member was good enough to send me notice of his question and I find that the report of the commission has been referred to an interdepartmental committee for the purpose of determining the implications for other industries of implementing the commission's report which, as the hon. member knows, was confined to the oil industry. Having said that, I am afraid an answer to the latter part of the hon. member's question will have to await the report of the interdepartmental committee.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. It is reported that the Saskatchewan Liberal leader said Wednesday that the Prime Minister had agreed to assign a federal cabinet minister to look after Saskatchewan's interests. My question is this. Is this going to be the practice of the government, to assign somebody to represent the people of Saskatchewan in parliament, instead of having the duly elected members of Saskatchewan attend to this business?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if my hon. friend, in accordance with constitutional practice in these matters,