

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, February 7, 1949

The house met at three o'clock.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

QUESTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR PRODUCTION OF PAPERS

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): At a recent sitting the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew) asked when there would be an opportunity for answering of questions that are on the order paper, and for dealing with notices of motions for production of papers. If for that purpose we can have the unanimous consent of the house, as in previous sessions when there was delay in disposing of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, we will answer questions and deal with notices of motions on Wednesday of this week and once a week thereafter until we return to the usual application of the standing orders.

NEWFOUNDLAND

REPORT AND DOCUMENTS RELATING TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR UNION WITH CANADA

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I desire to lay on the table English and French copies of a report and documents relating to the negotiations for the union of Newfoundland with Canada. Copies in English have been distributed to all hon. members today. Copies in French will be on their desks tomorrow.

HOUSING

FRASERVIEV VETERANS RENTAL PROJECT, VANCOUVER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver South): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply. Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is carrying out a building project in Vancouver, known as the Fraserview project. Apparently the corporation has expropriated the property of certain residents who already live in this particular district. Over the week end I have received complaints about bulldozers tearing up gardens without warning, and other alleged high-handed procedure on the part of the corporation. There would seem to be undue

interference with the present residents. Can the minister make a statement on this question? If not, will he have an immediate investigation made?

Hon. Robert H. Winters (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): The hon. member was good enough to give me notice of his question, and I have looked into the matter briefly. The Fraserview project is in accordance with an agreement between the city of Vancouver and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The development is a veterans' rental project involving some 300 acres of land immediately west of the Fraser golf club. Most of this land was owned by the city of Vancouver as tax sale land, but some parcels are owned by individuals. It was considered desirable to replan the area. For this reason, possession of all the land was required. Expropriation has taken place in respect to both privately-owned vacant land and privately-owned buildings.

The planning has been arranged so that, as far as possible, existing buildings will remain undisturbed. A number of houses may have to be moved, although by arrangement of the planning it is hoped to keep this number to a minimum. The situation has been explained to individual owners in the area, and every effort is being made to cause as little inconvenience as possible. An official of the corporation is devoting his whole time to dealing with individual owners. The vacant land is now being cleared so that an early start may be made upon the 1,200 houses for veterans.

Mr. Green: Will the minister have a further investigation made to see if there is not some way in which those who already live there can be protected against interference with their property?

Mr. Winters: I shall be glad to do that. As I pointed out, an official of the corporation already is working, on a full-time basis, with individual owners.

CITY OF OTTAWA

SUGGESTED CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTERS AT BUS STOPS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. L. Church (Broadview): I have a suggestion to offer the Minister of Public Works, though I do not ask that he reply today. My suggestion is that the government