

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

very short statement which appears at page 1, namely:

The producers association suspended their strike threat and the show went on, opening with the statement that "This hour comes to you through the courtesy of the Prime Minister of Canada".

Does he take from those words the suggestion that either he or his government have shown some direct interference in the management of the C.B.C.?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. This question is argumentative.

[Translation]

[Later:]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a supplementary question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Does he intend to wait for the report of the parliamentary committee now studying the case of "This Hour Has Seven Days", before the producers association or management of the C.B.C. reach decisions?

[English]

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, the consideration if any, to be given by the committee to this report is a matter, of course, for the committee itself to decide.

**TRANSPORT**SEAWAY TOLLS—HOUSE CONSIDERATION  
OF PROPOSED INCREASES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the widespread concern over the proposal that the tolls on the St. Lawrence seaway be raised, I want to ask the Prime Minister whether he can give the house an assurance on two counts; first that the recommendations of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority will be made public before any decision is made by the cabinet; second, that there will be an opportunity to discuss these recommendations in the House of Commons prior to any order in council being passed which would increase the tolls on the St. Lawrence seaway.

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the house has already been given an opportunity to discuss this matter. In regard to the procedure to be followed in the future, I would only assure my hon. friend that the appropriate constitutional procedure will be followed. I know this procedure will be such as will respect the rights of parliament and also the responsibilities of the government.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

**Mr. Douglas:** A supplementary question. May I ask the Prime Minister whether he can be more specific and clarify his statement. Is the Prime Minister now telling the house that the order in council will be passed without parliament being given any opportunity to discuss the recommendations of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, though I am not sure whether this is within the authority of the government. If not, would he approach the seaway authority to see whether the authority would make public the economic studies which it commissioned and upon which it bases its proposals?

**Mr. Pearson:** I should be glad to look into that question, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

**AGRICULTURE**QUEBEC—APPOINTMENT OF FRUIT AND  
VEGETABLE INSPECTORS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

On March 7 last, almost three months ago, the Canadian Fruit and Vegetable Wholesalers Association asked the Department of Agriculture to appoint additional federal inspectors in Quebec.

Can the minister tell us today if additional fruit and vegetable inspectors will be appointed in the province of Quebec?

**Mr. Speaker:** That question should be put on the order paper.

[Later:]

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, may I put a supplementary question to the Minister of Agriculture?

Is he in a position to tell us whether he is considering at present the possibility or advisability of appointing fruit and vegetable inspectors in the province of Quebec?

**Mr. Speaker:** That question has just been rejected.

**Mr. Caouette:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I would not want the inspectors to be placed on the order paper but rather appointed in the province of Quebec to deal with fruits and vegetables.