

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

off of hourly paid personnel at H.M.C. Dockyard and other defence establishments?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It seems to me the hon. member is asking a question about policy, and I doubt whether it may be answered now. Perhaps there is an element of urgency in the matter which does not appear in the question as asked by the hon. member. Unless there is this element of urgency, I suggest that the question cannot be asked at this time.

**Mr. Groos:** With all deference, sir, having returned from ceremonies at various cenotaphs across the country which were attended in large part by veterans who have an active interest in the matter, I wish to know if the minister is prepared to answer the question now. If he is not I should like to debate it at ten o'clock.

**Mr. Nielsen:** It is urgent.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** May I ask a supplementary question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member may not ask another question. I think the hon. member for Victoria (B.C.) will agree that his question ought to be debated at the time of adjournment.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** May I put a related question to the minister? Do veterans still enjoy the same preference they have always enjoyed?

**Mr. Speaker:** Of course the hon. member's question is much the same as the one asked by the hon. member for Victoria. Perhaps we might consider both questions at ten o'clock.

**TRANSPORT****BORDEN-TORMENTINE FERRY—REPORTED  
DRASTIC LAY-OFFS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens):** My question was for the Minister of Transport; in the absence I will direct it to the parliamentary secretary. Has the minister received an urgent communication from the president of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Labour in connection with lay-offs on the Borden-Tormentine ferry service, which are reported so drastic as to leave insufficient deckhands to man the lifeboats on some of the ferries? Will the parliamentary secretary take the necessary steps to have this matter brought under early consideration with a view to remedial action?

[Mr. Groos.]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member is making a representation to the minister, and I assume it will be taken into account.

**OLD AGE SECURITY****POSSIBLE LOSS OF INCREASE TO WAR  
VETERANS ALLOWANCE RECIPIENTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Is the minister now in a position to answer my question of October 18, which I asked again on October 27, as to whether he has found a way by which those receiving war veterans allowances will not lose the \$1.50 they will get as an increase in their old age security pensions in January?

**Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Not as yet, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Knowles:** May we expect an announcement on this matter at an early date?

**Mr. Teillet:** I certainly hope to be in a position to answer very shortly.

**SHIPPING****REPORTED INCREASE IN HANDLING CHARGES  
AT ST. LAWRENCE PORTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot):** I wish to direct a question to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Transport in the absence of the minister. Is the parliamentary secretary aware that handling charges in the ports of Trois-Rivières, Quebec and Montreal have recently been increased from \$3 to \$15 a ton? If so, what does the department intend to do about it?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I would think this is a question to be placed on the order paper.

**DRUGS****COMPLAINTS RESPECTING VITAMIN CONTENT  
OF CERTAIN PREPARATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax):** I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Has the minister received recent complaints regarding changes made by his food and drug directorate in connection with the vitamin content of certain preparations on the market? If so, what is being done about such complaints?