

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Douglas:** Perhaps I may rephrase the question. Am I to understand from the minister's statement that any of the companies which signed the Canada-U.S. auto agreement may bring in not only cars of their own manufacture but also foreign manufactured cars?

**Mr. Drury:** Mr. Speaker, in so far as Canada is concerned, the cars must be either manufactured by the importer in Canada or be foreign cars. The only cars an importer could bring in would be foreign cars, unless they shipped their own out of the country and brought them back in. We have provided under the auto agreement that a manufacturer of motor cars in Canada is entitled to bring into Canada finished motor cars and components from any country in the world. This provision is not limited to any one particular area or country. The companies are free to import cars and components from any country in the world, provided they meet certain conditions in respect of manufacturing facilities, increased production in Canada and so forth, all of which I have explained at some length. They are entitled to import these cars and components on a duty-free basis.

**Mr. Douglas:** Well, that is a revelation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Perhaps I should intervene at this point because it seems to me that the question now asked by the hon. member is rather involved. I suggest it is not in order to ask a minister to interpret or explain a treaty or an agreement in the way that it is now being done. That is not the purpose of our question period.

**Mr. Starr:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The revelation just made by the minister is the first we have heard about this aspect of the agreement.

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

**SHIPPING****ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—INQUIRY AS TO SINKING OF DREDGE**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Some time ago I asked the minister about the sinking of the dredge *Manseau 101* in the St. Lawrence River and he replied that an investigation had been commenced immediately. Can the minister indicate what progress that investigation has

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made and when we may expect the report? Perhaps he could also indicate who is heading that investigation.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I could not possibly answer those detailed questions without first obtaining some information. I will do so and make a reply.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****NEW YORK—FREEZING OF BANK ACCOUNTS OF CANADIAN CONSULATE EMPLOYEES**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply to a question asked me last Thursday by the right hon. Leader of the Opposition, and referred to again privately, with regard to the difficulties of Intrabank and the consequence of these difficulties which I think are now being corrected gradually as a result of the announcement of the government of Lebanon.

It is true that the deposits of Canadian employees in the Canadian consulate in New York, held by Intrabank were frozen. However, as a result of discussions that I had with the new ambassador for Lebanon, who has now taken up his post in Ottawa, and consultations that have been taking place in New York, I hope that other assets of the bank that are now in another bank in New York may be available to release these deposits.

In any event I think the situation now is less serious than it was when my right hon. friend sent me the telegram on Friday, and I have reason to believe that possibly before the end of the week this situation will be clarified.

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Has there been any unfreezing yet?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** No.

**OLD AGE SECURITY****INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION THIS SESSION**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister, on behalf of all senior citizens in Canada, with respect to the anticipated legislation with regard to old age security pensions. Could the Acting Prime Minister tell us when this legislation will be introduced?