

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

with the wheat board, and perhaps later this day I might have an opportunity to provide the information.

**Mr. McIntosh:** A supplementary question. In view of the minister's remarks, and also in the absence of a federal feed grain policy, is it not an improper use of a producers' marketing board for this action to be taken?

**Mr. Sharp:** I just want to say that the wheat policy of the Canadian government has been announced in so far as initial prices are concerned and in so far as the new program of surplus disposal is concerned. Otherwise the Canadian wheat board, which is directed by parliament to sell Canadian wheat to best advantage, continues in existence and is operating just as vigorously as it ever has operated.

**Mr. McIntosh:** Mr. Speaker, surely parliament did not direct the Canadian wheat board to go outside its regulations.

**TRANSPORT****NORTH SYDNEY-NEWFOUNDLAND—INQUIRY AS TO SECOND FERRY**

*On the orders of the day:*

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, on July 18 I addressed a question to the Secretary of State relating to the proposed second ferry between North Sydney and Newfoundland. The reply I received was that there would be action in the near future. In view of the fact we are approaching adjournment I wonder if the minister would indicate whether "in the very near future" means today or soon?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State):** I am afraid that I answered the hon. gentleman's question because I happened on that day to be Acting Minister of Transport. It would hardly be proper for me to usurp the functions of my colleague today, much as I should like to answer the question. The hon. members for St. John's West and St. John's East have, I know, had this matter very much in mind. I hope the Minister of Transport can give a good answer.

**Hon. G. J. McLraith (Minister of Transport):** I think I could assure the hon. gentleman that an answer will be given soon.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria):** May I ask a supplementary question. I wonder if the minister would take into consideration the excellent work that could be done in the summer months in preparing docks.

**Mr. McLraith:** I can assure the hon. gentleman that the minister is well aware of all the implications in this matter.

[Mr. Sharp.]

**GRAIN—REQUEST FOR USE OF PORTS OF HALIFAX AND SAINT JOHN**

*On the orders of the day:*

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of his announcement a few moments ago regarding expenditures for the seaway system, which can only be further to the detriment of maritime ports, has the minister any good news in reply to my question of a few days ago regarding the possibility of directing shipments through Saint John, which would ease the glut of 2 million bushels of grain now stored there?

**Hon. G. J. McLraith (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the proposition that the twinning of the locks on the Welland canal will be to the detriment of Saint John, but as to the desirability of having more shipping through the port of Saint John I am in complete accord with the hon. member, and will look at anything that can be done to increase shipping through that port and the port of Halifax, the two ports where there is a problem as he has indicated.

**Mr. Bell:** With respect to the twinning of the locks, now that this matter has been completed would the minister direct his energies to moving ahead with the Chignecto canal, which would be a similar project?

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****WEST GERMANY—LEGISLATION RESPECTING PAYMENT OF WAR CLAIMS**

*On the orders of the day:*

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** In the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs I wish to ask the Prime Minister a question. My question is based on information from Europe and the fact that time is running out if certain Canadian citizens are going to receive justice.

In view of the fact that the draft of the final law on the question of compensation to victims of nazi tyranny now being considered by the West German government completely ignores many of the just demands made by the victims of naziism now resident in Canada, would the minister inform the house what action the government is taking to assist Canadian citizens in obtaining adequate compensation from the West German government for their sufferings in the defence of freedom?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** We are not yet aware of the details of the legislation to which my hon. friend has referred. We have been informed that it has