

*Inquiries of the Ministry***PRIVILEGE****MR. BROADBENT—STATEMENT BY MINISTER
ON INCENTIVES TO INDUSTRY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday last I rose on a question of privilege with regard to comments made by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Since he is in the house, and back from the west coast, I wonder whether he would care to answer the matter I raised.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, this was a rather technical matter. I stand on what I said and, if I may say so, I do not think it was a matter of privilege. But if the hon. member would care to debate it with me I will be glad to see him at any time today, tomorrow, Sunday or Monday.

FINANCE**STEPS TO BRING ABOUT INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY REFORM**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Since there are indications that the steps taken by the finance ministers at Bonn recently involve a temporary, patchwork solution to our monetary problems, what steps is the government taking to bring about a longer term measure of reform in our international monetary affairs? What policy proposals is the federal government prepared to advance toward that end?

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest to the hon. member that he is seeking information which normally ought to be given by way of a statement on motions.

TRANSPORT**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CAUSEWAY—
REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF
INTENTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Melvin McQuaid (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Has he received a telegram from the Maritime Provinces Board of Trade asking for a positive decision on construction of the causeway? If so, how soon may we expect an announcement of that positive decision?

Ottawa and other cities? If so, is it the intention of the government to oppose this application asking for an unjustified sharp increase in rates?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the application, but this is one area of responsibility that has been transferred to the Postmaster General. Perhaps I might redirect the question to him.

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, the application is before the Canadian Transport Commission. Since this is a court of record hon. members would not think it appropriate for me to make any remarks about this application.

GRAIN**REPORTED SLOW MOVEMENT TO TERMINAL
DRYING FACILITIES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Earlier we were told that drying facilities at the lakehead are not operating on a seven-day 24-hour a day basis because of lack of sufficient facilities to deal with damp grain. In the D.B.S. report dated December 4 it is indicated that for the seven days ending November 21 there were fewer carloadings—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. As the hon. member knows, he must ask a question and seek information rather than present information to the house.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, I am trying to lay the groundwork for my question. According to the report there were fewer carloadings with respect to grain than in the similar period last year. I wish to know why there were fewer carloadings during that critical period?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think the explanation has already been given either by myself or by the Minister without Portfolio. We indicated before that it took some time to organize and regularize the flow of wheat to terminals. This has been done now and will continue to be done in the coming days. Terminals will be operating six days a week and 24 hours a day. Yesterday the question in the house was "What about seven days a week?" The answer given was that this is presently being discussed with the trade unions.