

Inquiries of the Ministry

record shows that the judge not only gave the persons involved the option of paying fines but he also offered to allow time for the ten persons involved to do so if they so wished. That is the position.

With regard to the other part of the question, the officials of my department have looked at the reasons for judgment and the judge's recommendation over the week end and are in touch with the Department of Justice regarding the matter. The Prime Minister or I will have something more to say on the subject within the next day or two.

NATIONAL GALLERY

REPORTED STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF
STATE RESPECTING PICTURE
PURCHASE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister and is prompted by a remark the Secretary of State made yesterday afternoon on a national television program. In view of the minister's statement that she hated to have the purchase of a \$6 million picture equated with old age pension payments and in view of the minister's indication that the cost per person in Canada to purchase the picture would be only 36 cents, is it the intention of the government to include in the estimate for the cost of this \$6 million purchase the old age pensioners of this country?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I heard that statement on television and I did not draw that conclusion from it at all.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Prime Minister indicate in what way the conclusion I have drawn is wrong?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, I would say it was very wrong.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Am I to take from the Prime Minister's remarks that the old age pensioners are not included and that my interpretation of the minister's statement is wrong? Will not the government give consideration to the old age pensioners rather than purchasing a \$6 million painting?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, I will get the text of the statement from the C.B.C., and I shall be delighted to send it to my hon. friend.

[Mr. Nicholson.]

SHIPPING

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—REQUEST FOR REPORT
ON SAFETY CONFERENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): My question is directed to the Minister of Transport. May I ask the minister whether he will be making an announcement to the house shortly regarding the results of the recent conference in Montreal respecting safety on the St. Lawrence river and manning requirements for ships?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): No, sir.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the drastic effect the lengthy shipping strike in Great Britain is having on commonwealth trade, would the Prime Minister consider offering his good offices to the leader of the Labour party in Great Britain, who is also prime minister of that country, to help settle this shipping strike?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: This question should be placed on the order paper.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I will send my hon. friend there.

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACT
INCREASE IN FUNDS AVAILABLE, EXTENSION
OF AUTHORITY, ETC.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Atlantic Development Board Act to increase the aggregate of the amounts that the Minister of Finance may credit to the Atlantic development fund from one hundred million dollars to one hundred and fifty million dollars, to extend the authority of the Atlantic Development Board to undertake projects alone or jointly with provinces or agencies thereof or other persons and to provide that any revenues received by the board from projects undertaken or financed by it may be credited to the said fund and expended for the purposes for which the Fund is established.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Batten in the chair.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure whether the committee feels it would be