

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I did meet with Premier Smallwood yesterday, as did the Minister of National Defence. We discussed various problems concerning Newfoundland. The meeting was most congenial, most happy, and when the outcome is announced I think it will be acceptable in every way. We discussed Pepperrell air base and various other matters that have concerned our two governments for some time. I am not in a position yet to reveal the decisions made because they require ratification on the part of both governments, but I am sure when the announcement is made it will be widely accepted and applauded as an example of that co-operation which should prevail between the federal government and the provinces.

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on the subject of co-operation would the Prime Minister care to comment on the reported statement of his colleague, the Associate Minister of National Defence, to the effect that the yellow peril is one of the most terrible threats to western civilization?

QUEBEC—REPORTED STATEMENT BY
PROVINCIAL MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question. I wonder whether he has received any message from the Quebec government which has the purport of a statement allegedly made yesterday by a Quebec minister, one R. Levesque, to the effect that the federal government should "get out, vanish"?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): I think that referred to shared programs.

TRANSPORT

USE OF U.S. SECURITY GUARDS IN
CANADIAN SHIPYARDS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on Monday last the hon. member for Kootenay West inquired about the use of Pinkerton guards at Canadian shipyards. I have checked, and I find that last summer the hon. member for Coast-Capilano brought to my attention a protest that he had received from a constituent. I advised that it was my information that this was more properly a matter coming under the jurisdiction of the province. There do not appear to have been any subsequent representations to my department.

[Mr. McGrath.]

PENITENTIARIES

PRINTING OF REPORT OF COMMISSIONER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Is it a fact that the most recent report of the commissioner of penitentiaries was prepared and printed by inmates of one of our federal prisons? If this is a fact will the minister accept congratulations on a laudable program, and will the program be continued?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The report this time was printed in Kingston penitentiary, and it is a program which we intend to continue and enlarge with respect at least to the printing of the Department of Justice.

(Translation):

BRIDGES

JACQUES CARTIER AND VICTORIA BRIDGES,
MONTREAL—INQUIRY AS TO TOLL
CHARGES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Johnson (Chambly-Rouville): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Has the premier of Quebec replied to his recent letter containing a proposal that, in the event of Quebec accepting the abolition of tolls on the Jacques Cartier and Victoria bridges, the maintenance of these bridges be provided on a shared-cost basis?

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I received a reply to the first letter I wrote to Premier Lesage. In this reply he asked for fuller particulars regarding the federal government's proposal. I answered that letter and I am now awaiting his further reply.

An hon. Member: He had better hurry.

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerard Loiselle (St. Ann): Mr. Speaker, further to the question put previously to the Minister of Transport, could the minister tell the house whether there has been any progress in the discussions between the federal government and the city of Montreal concerning tolls on the Jacques Cartier and Victoria bridges?

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): I have not yet received a reply from the mayor of Montreal.