

federal government is to issue these cheques in the same way as the Quebec government, that is directly to the farmers?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question is not in order.

[English]

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

REPORTED STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN ON NEED FOR MONEY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport with respect to his Atlantic Development Board responsibilities. Does the minister agree with the over-all contention of Mr. Ian MacKeigan, chairman of that board, who in an important speech on Friday in Fredericton contended that the board has run out of money and that much more is needed? Can we expect a statement as to the government's intentions respecting the board and the need for more money?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman will refresh his memory by looking at the Speech from the Throne he will see that an amendment to the act is envisaged. The fund has not actually run out of money but most of it has been committed to various projects. As my right hon. friend the Prime Minister pointed out some time ago, we do not think that the work of the board has yet been completed. The government does not intend to see that it is hampered in going on with its work.

Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert): As a supplementary question may I ask the minister whether he gives full reassurance that the board is still necessary and that more funds will be made available?

Mr. Pickersgill: I am very glad that the hon. gentleman does not agree with the rather extraordinary views expressed by his leader some little time ago as to the necessity for a fund, and that he agrees with us that the fund is necessary.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister not aware that it was the same leader of this party who established this board originally?

Mr. Pickersgill: Yes, without any money.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MAYOR OF QUEBEC CITY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration?

I should like to ask him whether he has had today or whether he is to have talks of the utmost importance with the mayor of the city of Quebec or with members of his executive?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I cannot judge from this question whether its substance is urgent or of national importance. It is most difficult for me to accept the question.

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, if the minister were given the opportunity to answer, I believe you would then be enlightened on the urgency of the question.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Digby-Annapolis-Kings.

[Translation]

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege.

It was to give the minister an opportunity to welcome the mayor of Quebec who is now in the gallery.

[Later:]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and future minister of manpower, following the question you ruled out of order in connection with the visit to Ottawa of his worship the mayor of Quebec. I believe that it is not very often that the mayor of Quebec comes to Ottawa and it is a question—

Mr. Speaker: Order. If the hon. member has a question, would he put it as soon as possible?

Mr. Caouette: Did the mayor of Quebec have a meeting with the minister or the right hon. Prime Minister, in connection with federal buildings in the city of Quebec, the use of which we ask for the benefit of Quebec city?

I think this is rather important.

Mr. Speaker: Very important indeed, but the question is out of order.