

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

## RETURN TO FLOATING EXCHANGE RATE

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo):** In view of the effect that is being experienced in the Canadian economy as a result of repercussions in other nations, is the minister giving further consideration to freeing the exchange rate in Canada and returning to a floating exchange rate?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** No, Mr. Speaker.

## NATIONAL DEFENCE

## REPORTED PRESENCE OF RUSSIAN SUBMARINES IN ARCTIC WATERS

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. Would the minister either deny or confirm the presence of Russian nuclear submarines in the Arctic?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I had a similar question yesterday and I believe I indicated at the time to my hon. friend that probably Admiral O'Brien had qualified his statement pertaining to so-called Russian submarines. I did look at the press report and I was happy to find that he did actually qualify his statement.

**Mr. Forrestall:** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question must be directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Because of the interest of Canadians and their concern about pollution in recent months I must ask whether or not the minister can indicate if the government of Canada has sought and received from the Union of Soviet Socialistic Republics assurances parallel and similar to those we sought and demanded from our neighbours to the south in terms of maritime movement in our Arctic? I refer particularly to the voyage of the *Manhattan*.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka.

## POLLUTION

## DESIGNATION OF POLLUTION CONTROL CO-ORDINATOR

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Now that his supporters in committee have rejected the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources as co-ordinator of pollu-

tion control activities in Canada, will the Prime Minister take action to settle the factional dispute among his ministers and designate a pollution control co-ordinator?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member for Peace River. Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

**Mr. Aiken:** I was waiting for an answer, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would not allow an answer because the question is obviously out of order.

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member knows he cannot ask a supplementary to a question which is out of order. Perhaps he might ask a different question.

**Mr. Aiken:** Then may I rephrase the question by leaving out the preliminary statement. May I ask the Prime Minister if he intends to designate a minister to co-ordinate pollution control activities?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we do assure co-ordination of pollution activities in a variety of ways, cabinet committees being one of them.

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister of Fisheries, through several pieces of legislation and the Fisheries Act, now has primary jurisdiction in the field of pollution control, will consideration be given to having him co-ordinate all activities relating to pollution control which now is under four or five different ministers?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member very much for the suggestion which I must say is not very helpful.

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Prime Minister would direct the same remark to the hon. member for Kamloops-Cariboo who asked him the same question and received a polite answer.

## HEALTH AND WELFARE

## QUARANTINING OF "ORONSAY"—RESIGNATION OF DR. COX—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY

**Mr. G. H. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the