

BRIDGES

OTTAWA-HULL—INQUIRY AS TO NEW
STRUCTURE

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): In the absence of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, the Minister of Public Works, and the Minister of Justice, may I ask the minister who is really the big boss in Ottawa matters, namely, the Solicitor General, whether the federal government has decided to build a new Ottawa-Hull bridge across Victoria Island? If so, was approval received from all levels of government?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): I am afraid I cannot accept the hon. member's recognition of me as the big boss and therefore cannot answer the question.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's East rises on a point of order.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

NEW BRUNSWICK AND NEWFOUNDLAND—
SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, this will give me an opportunity to set the record straight. My point refers to a question I directed to the President of the Treasury Board. It had to do with the approval of two special area programs under regional economic expansion for New Brunswick and Newfoundland. On Wednesday last in the Standing Committee on Regional Development the minister said, in reply to a question, that both of these programs had been approved by the provinces and were being considered by Treasury Board. Yesterday, as recorded at page 5930 of *Hansard*, I directed a similar question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, and he said in reply to the question regarding these two programs that they were before Treasury Board. The question that I wanted to put to the minister to set the record straight, because of the importance of these two programs, is: When did Treasury Board approve the programs, when was the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion notified, and when were the two provinces notified?

22218—33

Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Bill

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. With the consent of the House perhaps the minister might reply to the question, but again we are faced with the situation of the Chair having taken it upon himself to give additional time to hon. members, and the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain, the hon. member for Waterloo and the Minister of National Revenue were among those who were anxiously waiting for an opportunity to get the floor. I wonder whether that is a legitimate point of order but at the same time, if there is agreement that the minister should reply to the question, I have no objection. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that there is a recognition of the importance of meeting the social and economic problems of these two provinces in these programs. This is part of the general government approach to reducing unemployment in these areas. In specific response to the hon. member's question, let me say that these two programs were discussed with the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion yesterday at the Treasury Board and approved.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

• (12 noon)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ARCTIC WATERS POLLUTION
PREVENTION BILL

PROVISIONS RESPECTING DEPOSIT OF WASTE, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF WORKS, SHIPPING SAFETY CONTROL ZONES, ETC.

The House resumed from Thursday, April 16, consideration of the motion of Mr. Chrétien that Bill C-202, to prevent pollution of the areas of the Arctic waters adjacent to the mainland and islands of the Canadian Arctic be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, as other hon. members have indicated, the bill before us should not be considered in isolation but should be taken in conjunction with Bill C-203, relating to the territorial sea, consideration of which I gather is scheduled to follow the conclusion of this bill if that takes place today. It should also be considered in conjunction with some other measures which have not yet been disclosed to us. The