

**Mr. Howard:**—and ask the Minister of Science and Technology—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Howard:**—whether steps have been taken within the minister's department to ensure that women scientists and technologists receive equal consideration with men for appointments, and, if so, what such steps are?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. In line with the instructions of this government to the Public Service Commission, my department is taking care to see if women can participate whenever nominations are made for tasks within the department.

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#### NATIONAL DEFENCE

##### ASSURANCE THAT ROYAL DESIGNATION NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM NAVAL VESSELS

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence of which I have given short advance notice. If I might be permitted I should like to express my sympathy to the minister and his family. Can the minister give the assurance that the rumour suggesting removal of the royal designation of "Her Majesty's Canadian Ship" from our naval vessels is unfounded?

• (1150)

**Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to be able to reassure the hon. member that all our naval ships are designated HMCS, which of course stands for Her Majesty's Canadian Ship, and they will continue to be so designated.

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#### SHIPPING

##### IMPLEMENTATION OF DARLING REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS—CONSULTATION WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the minister's reply to a question about the Darling report last week, found in *Hansard* at page 175, would he assure the House that his consultations with the premiers of the provinces on all matters stemming from that report will include consultation with the premier of British Columbia on matters of interest to British Columbia?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

#### Oral Questions

#### INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

**Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister arising from an answer he gave in the House earlier. Did I understand him to say that the academic question of capital punishment takes precedence in this government's list of priorities over the plight of the several hundreds of thousands of unemployed and pensioners on inadequate pensions? Is that the doctrine he now preaches to the House?

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#### AGRICULTURE

##### INCREASE IN PRICE OF FERTILIZER—INQUIRY AS TO ACTION

**Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. As great concern has been expressed by a number of farm organizations in the past as well as at present over the increase in the price of fertilizer for the farming industry, and as fertilizer plants suggest that the increase results from a lack of potash and other ingredients which are in over-supply in Saskatchewan, can the minister inform us whether there will be action on this matter?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, this has been reported to me. What the hon. member says is true, according to the representations which have been made to me, namely, that because of so-called shortages of nitrogen and potash it is proposed to increase prices. We are investigating this. We are contacting the premier of Saskatchewan to find out if it is true that there is a shortage of potash in Saskatchewan and investigating the other chemical companies that are responsible for the manufacture of nitrogen.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order involving the President of the Treasury Board. On Friday last I asked the minister, as reported at page 230 of *Hansard*, if he would see to it that the Governor General's warrants of which we were speaking at that time were tabled on Monday so that members might have full information. At page 231 he said yes, he would do that. What he tabled today is a copy of the statement of the special warrants issued under Section 23 of the Financial Administration Act which is not, as I am sure the minister will agree, a copy of the warrants themselves. In order to facilitate the provision of full information to members both here and in committee, would the minister see to it that the warrants themselves are tabled?

**An hon. Member:** Or exact copies of them.

**Mr. Drury:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. gentleman will not ask that the warrants be tabled but copies of them. The second document I tabled this morning, which was filed privately with the Clerk, is the one the hon. member has now. The other documents I tabled, and I think they are still on the table, are copies of the Governor General's warrants and the schedules thereto.