

Inquiries of the Ministry

Will the icebreakers on the St. Lawrence only be used to prevent flooding or will they be used as navigation aids as well?

Mr. Speaker: Order. In my opinion, the hon. member's question is much too general.

Mr. Grégoire: The minister replied that—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

[English]

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister has answered the first question. It seems to me the supplementary question is a little too general, but if the minister is prepared to answer I have no objection.

Mr. Hellyer: I thought, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman would raise enough money in France to build another icebreaker we might be able to do an even more effective job.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister of Transport aware that the Russian government offered an icebreaker last year, so as to enable us to keep the St. Lawrence open all through the winter?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

NATIONAL DEFENCEREPORTED PURCHASE OF NAVAL GUNS
FROM ITALY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. What naval guns is Canada purchasing from Italy, and what is the use to which these guns are to be put?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt whether that question may be asked at this time.

Mr. Harkness: With the greatest respect, Mr. Speaker, may I ask on what basis that question is not in order? Surely it raises a question which is of urgency.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking for detailed information, but the question is out of order on many other counts. It is not that urgent that it cannot be placed on the order paper. Should the hon. member think that it is of an urgency which escapes the Chair, he may give notice that he wishes to debate it at the time of adjournment.

[Mr. Grégoire.]

POLLUTIONREQUEST FOR DOMINION-PROVINCIAL
CONFERENCE ON PROBLEM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): May I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the extreme urgency of the air pollution problem, and in view of the increasing incidence of air pollution, will the Prime Minister consider setting up immediately a conference with the provinces in which the government could ask them to share in the study of this serious problem?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): We have had one conference, Mr. Speaker, as I seem to recollect, but I shall be glad to look into the possibility of another conference because of the urgency of the matter. Perhaps this is something which could be discussed at one of the forthcoming federal-provincial meetings.

Mr. H. R. Ballard (Calgary South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Prime Minister also indicate in connection with the question raised by the hon. member for Simcoe East that urban municipalities find it increasingly difficult to finance necessary works which are to be effective in the area of air pollution?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is making a statement. With respect, to my mind he is not asking a question.

Mr. Ballard: May I put my question, Mr. Speaker. Can the Prime Minister indicate whether matters having to do with air pollution, and I refer particularly to public transportation and public housing, are to be on the agenda at the forthcoming federal-provincial conference?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's question is purely hypothetical.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICETRIAL OF JUVENILE IN ADULT COURT
ON MURDER CHARGE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I believe my question ought to be directed to the Minister of Justice. In his absence may I direct it to the Prime Minister or the Solicitor General. In view of the reported decision of an Ontario juvenile court judge to transfer the case of a 15 year old boy to an adult court where