

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.

(Translation):

**STORMS****REPORTED DAMAGE BY TORNADO**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gerard Laprise (Chapleau):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Could he tell whether the Quebec government has asked the federal government to provide assistance for farmers of western Abitibi whose farm buildings were destroyed by a tornado June 30 last?

(Text):

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, no such request has been received.

**FINANCE****SALES TAX—INQUIRY AS TO LETTER FROM LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox):** I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Has the minister received a letter from the executive officers of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, informing him of the chaos and crippling confusion—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** —created throughout both the production and sales field—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** —of the Canadian lumbering industry, by the imposition of the sales tax—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Will the hon. member please sit down? The hon. member must know that when the Speaker stands hon. members are supposed to take their seats. This question is out of order.

[Later:]

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** May I reword my question so that it will be in order?

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope so.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** I would like to ask the Minister of Finance whether he has received the aforementioned letter from the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, pointing out the situation they are in?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** I have received the letter, Mr. Speaker, and I think their situation will be relieved very considerably by the action taken on Monday.

[Mr. Nielsen.]

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** As a supplementary question, did not this letter come to the minister's attention since the action he says took place on Monday?

**PUBLIC WORKS****NOVA SCOTIA—REQUEST FOR DREDGING OF LA HAVE**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the silting that has filled in the channels of the La Have river, especially near Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, causing pulp and pit prop carriers with 21 foot draft to cancel their loading charters at this port, will the minister give consideration to carrying out immediate dredging in this area, which is urgently required in order to maintain shipping schedules during this summer?

(Translation):

**Hon. J. P. Deschatelets (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I shall contact the engineers of the department. I appreciate that the question is urgent and I shall consider it as such. I shall inform the hon. member as soon as I receive a report.

**PUBLIC SERVICE****PRINTING BUREAU—INQUIRY AS TO HOURS OF WORK**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Marcel Lessard (Lake St. John):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. Could the hon. gentleman tell the house whether it is true that civil servants at the national printing bureau must work nine hours a day, without any interruption, to print the official report of debates of the House of Commons?

(Text):

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I believe it is against the rules to ask the minister whether or not certain statements are true or to convey information to the house. If the information the hon. gentleman seeks to convey is correct, I think it is unfortunate. I shall have to make some inquiries to find out.

**DEFENCE PRODUCTION****REPORTED INTENTION TO CANCEL FRIGATE PROGRAM**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Temiskamingue):** Can the Minister of National Defence say whether he has now completed his review of the general purpose frigate program?