

*Inquiries of the Ministry*INQUIRY AS TO PROPOSED CO-ORDINATION  
AUTHORITY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Pictou):** My question is addressed to the Minister of Transport. I wish to ask him whether it is the policy of the government, or whether he intends to recommend to the government, that a single board or commission be set up to look into the question of transport in Canada and carry out the functions of the Board of Transport Commissioners, the Air Transport Board and the Maritime Commission, as he suggested in a speech in Winnipeg yesterday.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** I said in Winnipeg that I had not made up my mind and that I wanted to hear more discussion and debate on this matter. I would be very glad to have the hon. member's views on this in writing.

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

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** A supplementary question. Could the minister indicate when I might expect a reply to question No. 814 on the order paper, which has to do with his search for a transportation policy? This question has been standing since February.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I do not know what it is about.

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

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Well, the reply will be ready just as soon as the arithmetic can be done.

**Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** Does all this mean we shall not have a railway bill this session?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I hope that long before other and even more urgent matters have been dealt with by hon. members, I will have a bill before the house which will commend itself at least to my colleagues in the government.

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

## FINANCE

REMOVAL OF TAXES ON AUTOMOBILE  
PARTS MACHINERY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South):** I address my question to the Minister of Finance.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Can the minister advise the house whether, and if so when, he proposes, as outlined in the *Globe and Mail* yesterday, to remove the 11 per cent sales tax and the 22½ per cent tariff on new machinery used by the car parts manufacturers, so they may more effectively compete with their United States counterparts?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance):** I set out the government's proposals in the course of the budget speech, I have nothing to add until the legislation is brought down.

## STORMS

ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION  
AS DISASTER AREA

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent (Ont.)):** My question is one for the Prime Minister. In view of the extensive property damage caused by wind and water in yesterday's disastrous storm which struck Essex and Kent counties on the north shore of lake Erie, will the right hon. gentleman indicate whether the government will consider this area as a disaster area and respond sympathetically to an application for financial aid?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** The members from Essex county have already brought this important matter to my attention. We are giving this serious consideration, but we have not yet heard from the Ontario provincial authorities. This is, of course, a provincial responsibility. No doubt they will get in touch with us if they need federal intervention and assistance.

## REDISTRIBUTION

INFORMATION ON EXPENDITURES BY  
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONS

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Merely for information I would direct a question to the Prime Minister arising out of the subject upon which Your Honour made a ruling at the opening of the sitting today—question No. 48 in the name of the hon. member for London, and questions 202 and 212 in the name of my hon. friend from Edmonton West.

I ask the Prime Minister this. Will he not, as head of the government, inquire from these commissions concerning the expenditure in question? We are asked to furnish the money and there is no commission in this