

Inquiries of the Ministry

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REFERENCE TO LANGUAGE USED IN DEBATE OF
MAY 15

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce and ask him if he intends at this stage in our proceedings to make any comment with regard to his obnoxious language as recorded on page 3939 of *Hansard*, and I should like to ask him whether his reference to a "louse" was to himself or to me.

Mr. Pickersgill: Just a trained seal.

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): There was a good deal of offensive language at that time. I take deep offence at this reference to myself and I am far from satisfied with the correction, which is equally offensive. The remark I made at the time was a first reaction to the hon. member's remarks and expresses in somewhat unparliamentary language the feeling I had about the situation.

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, with this precedent now before us, perhaps it will be permissible as well as appropriate to describe this government as lousy.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING SETTLEMENT OF SEAMEN'S STRIKE ON GREAT LAKES

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. Ellen L. Fairclough (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Labour. Can the minister give this house any information on the progress being made in the settlement of the dispute between the seafarers' international union and the steamship owners?

Hon. Milton F. Gregg (Minister of Labour): Nothing in addition to what I gave yesterday, Mr. Speaker, except to say that the negotiations are still moving forward with good hopes.

FREIGHT RATES

FEED GRAINS—REQUEST FOR INCREASE
IN SUBSIDY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. M. Howe (Wellington-Huron): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Will the government give immediate consideration to the necessity of raising the present \$4.50 freight rate subsidy on feed grains to the original

[Mr. Winters.]

\$6 rate? Owing to the extremely late spring and the tie-up of shipping on the great lakes the eastern Canadian farmer finds himself faced with the necessity of buying additional feed which has become costly and scarce.

Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the government a year ago gave full consideration to the freight rates assistance which is given on the shipment of feed grain from the prairies to other parts of Canada and equalized them as among the different sections of Canada to the point where we think they may be justified.

WATER RESOURCES

UPPER THAMES VALLEY AUTHORITY—INQUIRY AS TO PROVISION IN ESTIMATES

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Has the government as yet reached any decision with respect to an appropriation in the supplementary estimates for the upper Thames valley authority?

Hon. Jean Lesage (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): No, Mr. Speaker.

NORTHERN ONTARIO PIPE LINE CORPORATION

CONSTITUTION OF CROWN COMPANY TO CONSTRUCT PIPE LINE, MAKE SHORT-TERM LOANS, ETC.

On the order:

Second reading of Bill No. 298, an act to establish the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation.—The Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. My point of order relates to the form of the bill, second reading of which has now been called. In the first place I would direct Your Honour's attention to page 357 of Beauchesne's third edition where there are given a number of rules of the House of Commons having to do with bills.

Mr. Speaker: Order. May I immediately inform the hon. member that at one time I went into what he calls the rules of the House of Commons pertaining to the preparation of bills. This is a report from a committee of this house at one time but the report was never concurred in by the house. It may serve as a guidance to draftsmen but it is not binding on the house.

Mr. Knowles: All right, Mr. Speaker. I will not press that aspect of my point of order.

Mr. MacDougall: Quote from the Simpsons-Sears catalogue.