

*Inquiries of the Ministry***POLLUTION**INVITATION FROM ONTARIO TO PARTICIPATE
IN CONFERENCE WITH UNITED STATES
GOVERNORS

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): My question is intended for the Minister of Energy, and Resources. Has the hon. gentleman responded to an invitation from the Ontario government to attend a conference with United States governors on pollution control measures affecting the Great Lakes?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): That invitation is being considered. We are holding discussions with United States federal officials in connection with a high-level federal conference which at some stage would embrace the provinces in connection with the international control of pollution and water quality. Certainly, all these initiatives should be dovetailed; we should co-ordinate these efforts because it will take a co-operative effort on the part of the provinces and the authorities to achieve the arrangements which will be most beneficial.

Mr. Aiken: Since the Ontario government was not represented at preliminary discussions on the IJC report, and there now seems to be some hesitation about the Ontario conference, will the minister make sure that talks on this very important matter are carried on in the presence of all interested governments?

Mr. Greene: As I have stated earlier, the IJC report will be the basis, we hope, of the federal negotiations and consultations. Preliminary discussion has taken place and we hope that in the arrangements ultimately to be made the Ontario representatives will be a party to any negotiations which take place. As I have often said, under our constitution Ontario will have to participate in the implementation of any agreement with the United States on the Great Lakes.

MANPOWERINCREASE IN EMPLOYABLES ON RELIEF ROLLS
—ASSISTANCE TO MUNICIPALITIES

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): My question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the great increase in the numbers on relief in Toronto and other municipalities right across the country, and the fact that the number of employables on relief rolls has increased from less than 6 per

[Mr. Olson.]

cent to 25 per cent, will the minister make a statement in the House before the recess setting out what assistance, if any, will be given to municipalities to help meet this crisis?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): If there is a program of assistance it will be announced, but I can give no assurance that this will be the case.

AGRICULTUREANNOUNCEMENT OF OVER-ALL GOVERNMENT
POLICIES

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the serious plight of agriculture, a situation aggravated by the unpegging of the Canadian dollar on Sunday, may I ask when we can expect the long-awaited announcement on the government's over-all agricultural policies?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): There have been many policy announcements made from time to time and the aggregate of these announcements is the over-all policy, which may be amended again from time to time.

SHIPPING

REPLACEMENT FOR MV "PATRICK MORRIS"

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I should like to ask the Minister of Transport a question. What progress is being made in finding a replacement for the MV *Patrick Morris*, bearing in mind we are now entering the peak travelling season on the Gulf of St. Lawrence?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): A team from the Canadian National has been in Europe for the past week. I was advised by telegram last night that they hope to telephone Ottawa today in regard to details and certain specific recommendations. I hope that by the end of this week a decision can be made.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PERU—ASSISTANCE TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. How has Canada responded to the earthquake and flooding in Peru which has caused such a terrible loss of life and deprivation?