Inquiries of the Ministry

The only other reservation I should like to mention relates to the fact that the defence staff has been making plans and giving consideration to certain details of this question in order that we will be able to answer fully questions posed by members of the defence committee when it is considering this legislation.

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Does the minister mean that the government has no intention of referring the whole matter of integration back to the defence committee so that witnesses from both inside and outside the services may testify on this and related matters? In view of the events that have taken place since June 22, does the minister say that he will not advise his colleagues to ask for the permission of the house to so refer this matter?

Mr. Hellyer: I have just indicated to the contrary, Mr. Speaker, that when the legislation is introduced we will in fact refer it to the committee so it can hear the opinions of individuals who may wish to express them.

Mr. Lambert: The minister has not said when that legislation will be introduced. Will he consider introducing it forthwith?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I have just indicated that this legislation will be introduced later this session. This was also indicated in the Speech from the Throne. My hon. friend may have forgotten that fact. This legislation will be introduced as soon as possible.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question for the Minister of National Defence. May we take it from his remarks that the defence committee will not be reconvened until such time as this new legislation is brought before the house? Must we wait until some subsequent date before—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that this question is repetitive, having been asked and answered.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, this is a very urgent—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. With all due respect I should like to bring to the attention of the hon. member that I never suggested this was not an urgent matter. I merely suggested that the question had been asked and that the minister had given an answer.

[Mr. Hellyer.]

## **OLD AGE SECURITY**

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION THIS SESSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to either the Prime Minister or the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will the government be in a position during this part of the session to bring forward its legislation to increase old age pensions and will there be any change in the plan announced on July 14?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the government's legislative program for this part of the session will be made known to the house just as quickly as possible.

## NATURAL GAS

DENIAL OF PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT LINE THROUGH U.S.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister related to his announcement the other day that permission has been denied by the government for the building of a gas pipe line from western Canada to central Canada following a route south of lake Superior. My question is in two parts. Has the government any alternative proposal in order to gain access to the additional United States markets which would have been available had this pipe line been authorized? Does the government have some proposal to assist in holding down the cost of gas to consumers in central Canada and the additional cost of building such a pipe line somewhere north of lake Superior?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I hope there will be an opportunity to discuss this whole matter very shortly. It is difficult for me at this moment to deal with these specific points, but I will discuss them with the minister concerned.

## NORTHERN AFFAIRS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—REPORT ON GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. J. Orange (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Can he indicate when he expects to receive the Carrothers commission report on the development of government in the