Inquiries of the Ministry
REPORTED DEVELOPMENT OF PILL TO END
PREGNANCY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Justice. According to reliable news reports it would seem that medical science has succeeded in the development of a pill which will allow one to end pregnancy. I should like to ask the Minister of Justice whether his officials are making a study to see whether the marketing of this pill will in any way contravene sections of the Criminal Code.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is another question about which I cannot see any immediate urgency. I suggest to the hon. member that the question should be placed on the order paper.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. H. A. Thomas (Middlesex West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. I should like to ask him whether any official notice has been taken of the landing of the Russian satellite on the planet Venus.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPORTED SUBVERSIVE BROADCASTS TO CANADA FROM CUBA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. R. Sherman (Winnipeg South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It has to do with the two meetings, or at least one meeting held this morning between him and the Cuban chargé d'affaires, and the allegation made in this house earlier this week with regard to broadcasts being beamed out of Cuba toward Canada. Can the minister tell the house the result of that meeting?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): After the hon. member for Red Deer brought this matter to my attention an inquiry was launched at once. In the meantime I was told by an officer of the Cuban embassy this morning that his minister in Havana telephoned him to say there was nothing in this statement.

[Mr. Speaker.]

IMMIGRATION

REQUEST FOR POLICY STATEMENT ON ADMISSION OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It arises from the fact that last week and on repeated occasions outside this house the minister publicly has stated his conviction that immigration laws should be changed to allow for the immigration into Canada of families having members who are handicapped. I should like to ask the minister whether he can clarify this for us.

Mr. Speaker: Order. According to the rules of the house a minister cannot be asked to clarify for the benefit of the house statements made outside the house.

Mr. Schreyer: May I rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he can tell us if it is the intention of the house to introduce legislation to make possible the immigration to Canada of families having members who are handicapped.

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I hope that early next year it will be possible to bring in amendments to the Immigration Act so that the policy which I mentioned may be implemented.

TRANSPORT

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CAUSEWAY—PROVISION FOR RAILS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Queens, as appears at page 3230 of the House of Commons debates, asked a question concerning the reappraisal of the design for the Northumberland strait crossing and whether a decision had been taken that the crossing would not have provision for rails.

As I advised the house some time ago, the official of the Department of Public Works and the consultants are reviewing the design and contract procedures for the Northumberland crossing project. One aspect of this review is the matter of the cost with or without a rail line. The review is continuing but is not yet completed. The answer to the hon. member's question is therefore no.