

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): With respect, sir, that is not the only thing you do not understand.

CHIGNECTO—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland): Can the Secretary of State inform the house if the Atlantic development board is presently giving consideration to a study of the Chignecto complex?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State): I am afraid I could not hear what the hon. gentleman said.

Mr. Coates: Can the Secretary of State inform the house if the Atlantic development board is presently giving consideration to a study of the Chignecto complex?

Mr. Pickersgill: I believe so, sir.

Mr. Coates: I wonder if the Secretary of State would check and find out for certain, and give the house some indication when we might expect a report.

Mr. Pickersgill: I shall be glad to do that when the officials are back from Newfoundland and I can get in touch with them readily.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

NUCLEAR WEAPONS—INQUIRY AS TO STORAGE ON
CANADIAN SOIL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Defence. Have we now any nuclear weapons, in one form or another, stored on Canadian soil?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Not that I am aware of, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Woolliams: May I ask a supplementary question. If we have them stored on Canadian soil, would the minister be aware of that situation?

Mr. Hellyer: I would hope to be, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Douglas: We hope you would be, too.

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

SUGGESTED APPEARANCE OF PRIME MINISTER
BEFORE COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether it is his intention to appear before the standing committee on privileges and elections to outline

to that committee the details of the government's program for making a contribution from the public treasury toward the costs incurred by parties and candidates during election campaigns?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I have not been invited to appear before the committee, so the question is indeed hypothetical.

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN—PRICES PAID BY EASTERN FARMERS
FOR WESTERN GRAIN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Megantic): I had a question for the Minister of Agriculture or for the Minister of Trade and Commerce, but since they are both absent today I shall direct my question to the Prime Minister. Will the Prime Minister assure the house the government will investigate the reason eastern farmers have to pay such a high price for grain produced in the western provinces?

Mr. Woolliams: Because we produce a good quality grain.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): The grain is of good quality, but I shall be glad to look into the matter. However, I do not believe this is a suitable question for orders of the day.

Mr. Langlois: May I ask a supplementary question of the Prime Minister. I know that the western farmers produce good wheat—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Langlois: —but we have been asking this question for quite a long time—

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member please take his seat when I am on my feet? Is the hon. member putting a question?

Mr. Langlois: Yes. I have been putting it for months, Mr. Speaker, and I still have not had an answer from the government. I went to the Prime Minister this time, and he gave an arrogant answer which was not in keeping with what should be an answer on the part of the government.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the hon. member got rather tied up in the form and phrasing of his own question. If he does not realize it, I should tell him that is not the type of question one should put. I am sure he will take notice of that.

Mr. Langlois: Mr. Speaker, I will rephrase the question I asked the Prime Minister. Is it the intention of the government to investigate the operations of the grain exchanges as to the difference in prices of wheat between eastern and western farmers?