

Inquiries of the Ministry

national harbours board so that all ships using the seaway will be under the control of one body?

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. member for sending me notice of his intention to ask this question. I have been in constant touch with the St. Lawrence seaway authority and the harbours board regarding preparation for the opening of navigation on Saturday in the Montreal area. I am glad to assure the hon. member that both the harbours board and the seaway authority are working very closely together, in complete co-operation. We do not believe there is any need for the move the hon. member has suggested.

Mr. Chevrier: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. My question was not directed so much to the opening of the seaway which is to take place on Saturday. My question was directed at future operations. I wondered whether the minister was not giving consideration to taking the south shore under the jurisdiction of the harbours board.

Mr. Hees: No, Mr. Speaker, we do not see any need for such a move.

SHIPPING**GREAT LAKES—INQUIRY AS TO PILOTAGE ARRANGEMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister if in relation to the seaway opening and the difficulties experienced last year between the seaway authority and the great lakes pilots association in Canada an agreement with the United States has been reached and confirmed in the interim period.

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Although the hon. member did not send me notice of his intention to ask this question, Mr. Speaker, I anticipated that such a question might be asked and I am pleased to give an answer.

It had earlier been my hope that the amendments to the Canada Shipping Act would have been approved by parliament prior to the opening of navigation on the great lakes, and that a full scale system of pilotage in Canadian waters could have been established in accordance with the provisions of the legislation.

However, as soon as it became apparent that the legislation would not be in effect at the beginning of the navigation season, we took emergency steps to try and establish a pilotage system which could at least operate

on a voluntary basis, so that pilots would be available to those ships which wished to use them.

We have been carrying out an emergency program of recruiting a number of great lakes pilots as federal employees for this purpose and arranging for a dispatch system, also to operate on a voluntary basis. Our primary objective at this time is to try and have in operation by next week a voluntary scheme of this sort which will take care of pilotage requirements in the most difficult area involved, namely from the beginning of the Welland canal at Port Weller, through that canal to lake Erie and onward, through the Detroit and St. Clair rivers to the beginning of lake Huron.

Mr. Fisher: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister give any indication as to the relative numbers taken on from the two pilotage groups that have been in conflict, the great lakes and the Port Weller-Sarnia pilots?

Mr. Hees: No, I do not have those figures.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**ROYAL VISIT COMMEMORATIVE STAMP—
SELECTION OF ARTIST**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Azellus Denis (St. Denis): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Postmaster General. Did the Postmaster General give consideration to the selection of a Canadian to do the design for the stamp to commemorate Her Majesty's visit to Canada? If so, what prevented such a selection?

Hon. W. M. Hamilton (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, there are only a comparatively few portraits of the Queen which have been approved by the palace for publication or use in such a way as on a stamp. The selection was made of the Annigoni portrait, which is the one which appears on the commemorative stamp to be issued in June commemorating Her Majesty's visit, because it was one of the few available, and was then and now considered an extremely fine representation of the Queen.

Mr. Denis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The Postmaster General said there were only a few portraits of Her Majesty available for this purpose. How many portraits are required to produce one stamp?

Mr. Hamilton (Noire Dame de Grace): Perhaps it might be well, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member sought out my predecessor on this point, because it was under the Liberal administration that this portrait was chosen and the plate prepared.