

[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REPORTED INCREASE OF FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTCIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the minister concerned, I shall direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Can he tell the house what progress has been made in the negotiations with the provinces with regard to fraudulent bankruptcies in Canada, in view of the fact that fraudulent bankruptcies have increased in October by 47 per cent over the previous month?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs is not now in the house because he is attending to his affairs, but I shall try to get a reply for the member as soon as possible.

[English]

IMMIGRATION

TORONTO—DEPORTATION ORDER AGAINST POLISH SEAMAN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have an urgent question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration or for his parliamentary secretary. What action has the minister taken concerning an urgent telegram from a Toronto lawyer protesting the decision of immigration officials to execute a deportation order against a Polish seaman before this lawyer had received a written order from the immigration appeal board, thereby denying the lawyer an opportunity to appeal the order of the board to the Supreme Court of Canada?

Mr. Gerard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I understand that up to eleven o'clock this morning the minister's office had not received a telegram concerning this case. As the hon. member knows, the minister of immigration has no power or authority over any decisions made by the appeal board. Therefore I suggest to my hon. friend that he recommend the case be taken to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. Haidasz: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister assure the house that the cabinet will consider at the earliest possible moment the approval of the international convention on refugees and seamen?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will take the matter under consideration.

TRANSPORT

WELLAND CANAL—INQUIRY AS TO EXPANSION

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Monteith (Perth): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Transport. Is it true that plans for the \$1 billion expansion of the Welland canal section of the St. Lawrence seaway have been shelved indefinitely?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker, this is not correct. This question is being considered by an inter-departmental committee at the present time. I am not in a position to say when they will finish their studies. I might tell my hon. friend, however, that since the time the report on the seaway was sent to the government there have been changes in the estimates made of traffic. There have also been changes in the technological devices for increasing throughput in the existing canal system which have an influence on the time when additional capacity might be necessary.

I think it is fair to say that no immediate start is required, but at the same time this is not to say that a start will not be required when the traffic forecast is sufficient to justify additional capacity. This is a question that can only be answered when we have had the chance to look at all relevant material in greater detail.

Mr. Monteith: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question. It is true, is it not, that it is quite possible these plans will be shelved?

Mr. Hellyer: No, Mr. Speaker, I certainly would not agree with that.

SHIPBUILDING

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Defence Production. In view of the continuing heavy unemployment in Canadian shipyards I wonder whether the minister is yet able to tell the house when he will be able to make a statement on motions as to government policy in this regard. I ask him this question because of answers given to me by the minister a few weeks ago to the