

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

For the information of the minister and the house, I wish to add that the *Amherst Islander* is a good ship of limited power, but she is not a good icebreaker and her hull would be vulnerable if she attempted to play the part of an icebreaker at this time and under present conditions. That is why the municipality now requires the services of the *Simcoe*.

I thank the minister for his courtesies and services in the past, particularly for the light buoy, which following my request he authorized at Bath, and which was installed last year as a safety measure on a dangerous shoal in front of that village. Since my question this afternoon regarding the subject under discussion, I have been informed by the minister's office that his department is giving favourable consideration to this request and I wish to voice my appreciation in that regard not only on my own behalf but on behalf of the people of Amherst island, and the reeve and council, who anxiously look forward to the re-opening of the channel and the resumption of the normal ferry service.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** I do not believe it is really necessary for me to say anything because the hon. member—and I congratulate him on his excellent Italian—has not only asked his question but answered it as well.

However, just in case my department is not able to perform quite as fast as the hon. gentleman may have given the impression it may, I must say in all sincerity that the *Simcoe* has had some engine trouble and is now tied up at the Portsmouth wharf at Kingston. Every effort is being made to effect repairs and it is hoped to have the vessel seaworthy by tomorrow or, at the latest, on Saturday. As soon as she is available she will undertake this service, and I hope perform it successfully. As there are islands off the mainland of Newfoundland in my constituency which are sometimes in a similar difficulty, the hon. gentleman can assure his constituents of Amherst island that I am very anxious that what he has asked should be done.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 11 p.m.

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