

Inquiries of the Ministry

question. If the hon. gentleman and those associated with him, together with the other members of the opposition and the members on this side of the house, are able to achieve the completion of our program by that date, then the question is answered. However, in the event that we do not do so, then if the house is agreeable—and all hon. members will naturally have the same anxiety to be present on this momentous occasion—no one would be particularly critical, providing there was unanimity, if the house should adjourn on that date.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS**WEST INDIES FEDERATION—INQUIRY AS TO PROGRESS IN GIFT OF SHIPS**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce arising out of one I asked the other day. Can the minister tell the house whether the plans and specifications for the two new ships which are being given to the government of the West Indies are in preparation, or are ready?

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I think I gave that answer last week in the absence of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Chevrier: I will look up *Hansard*.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN**RETAINING WALLS, QUEBEC PROVINCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Yvon Dupuis (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Public Works, and ask him when I may expect an answer to question 108, which I asked at the beginning of February, and which has been submitted as an order for return.

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): I am not sure that comes under the Department of Public Works, but I shall be glad to make inquiries.

Mr. Dupuis: It refers to certain protection walls.

BRIDGES**PEACE RIVER—REQUEST FOR PROGRESS REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. C. Henderson (Cariboo): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of National Defence. Could the minister give the house a progress report on the construction of the bridge which is being built across

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

the Peace river to replace the one destroyed in October, 1957? Can the minister say when the bridge will be open for traffic?

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): I should like to thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question. I am informed that a contract for the construction of the substructure and approaches for the new bridge was awarded on July 29, 1958 and this work was completed within schedule on April 15 of this year.

A further contract for the construction and erection of the superstructure was awarded on October 20, 1958 and the completion date for this work is November 15, 1959.

In answer to the hon. member's second question, it is expected that traffic should be moving freely across the new bridge by January, 1960.

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT**GASOLINE—ALLEGED PRICE DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice, notice of which was sent to him earlier. Has the minister received any requests for an inquiry under the Combines Investigation Act into the charge that price discrimination is being practised by certain oil companies during the present so-called gasoline war in southern Ontario and, if so, what action is contemplated?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): I thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question. I find that a telegram dated April 21 has been received by the director of investigation, to which he has replied. I can advise the hon. member that in view of the request received from the Toronto area this matter is being carefully considered, and whatever facts the investigation discloses will be followed up in the usual way.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**BOBBIE CHAPMAN—INQUIRY AS TO EXERCISE OF CLEMENCY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold Hicks (Fraser Valley): I should like to inquire from the Solicitor General if a decision has yet been reached and, if not, when will it be reached, regarding the Bobbie Chapman case. I am sure that many people, hundreds of whom the minister has heard from, hope a decision will be announced as soon as possible.