Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): I want to congratulate the hon. member for Essex West on the assiduous manner in which he takes care of the interests of Windsor. In reply to his question I would say it was only last night that the construction company temporarily stopped operations on the new federal building there, owing to some problem in connection with partitioning. We hope that operations will recommence on Monday next.

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, may I inquire of the minister whether he received my communication along the lines of the question put by the hon. member for Essex West?

Mr. Walker: Mr. Speaker, I was quite surprised that I did not receive any communication from the hon. member.

## LABOUR CONDITIONS

INQUIRY AS TO AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can the minister advise the house whether the national employment service has employment opportunities for carpenters, plumbers, electricians and painters and, if so, in what parts of Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The inquiry is properly one for the order paper, unless the minister has the information at hand.

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I have not.

### SHIPPING

SMALL BOAT REGULATIONS—INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Could the minister say what progress his department is making in developing licensing regulations for small craft, and whether his department have reached the stage where any amendments or new regulations will be introduced for this boating season.

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I believe the progress we are making is very good and very satisfactory. I will speak to those in my department responsible for this matter and give the hon, member an answer tomorrow.

# Dominion-Provincial Relations

#### GRAIN

REPORTED INTENTION TO MAKE ADDITIONAL ACREAGE PAYMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I would like to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. Would he comment on a Canadian Press dispatch in the Regina Leader-Post of May 5, which states:

The federal government intends to make another acreage payment to western grain farmers before the end of the year, an authoritative source said Wednesday.

I am wondering whether such decision has now been made.

Hon. Howard C. Green (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, any decision on this point will be announced in due course.

# FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL TAX-SHARING ARRANGEMENTS ACT

ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY GRANTS—EXTENSION OF INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE

The house resumed, from Tuesday, May 10, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-56, to amend the Federal-Provincial Tax-Sharing Arrangements Act—Mr. Fleming (Eglinton)—Mr. Flynn in the chair.

On clause 1-Amendment of agreements.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, before you give your ruling, I had not intended to say anything on the point that was raised until the second intervention by the Minister of Finance, but it seemed to me—and I am not taking issue with that at all at the moment—that in his second intervention the minister assumed that the general discussion which Your Honour ruled would be in order had been completed. I simply wanted to point out Your Honour that there were a number of hon. members on this side of the house who wished to participate in that general discussion before we discuss the details of clause 1.

The Chairman: The point of order which was raised last night came about when the hon. member for Gatineau was speaking, and I took the view that his remarks at that time should be addressed to clause 2 of the bill when we came to examine that clause. The remarks which were made on that point of order revived the previous question of whether general debate could take place on clause 1 of the bill in committee. I have examined the question and I find that there are not many precedents or many very explicit decisions on the matter.