

and, I hope, profit from the eloquent words which the hon. Member for Renfrew South (Mr. Green) used in this house when reviewing the drought situation in the Ottawa valley, and the public comments made by the defeated Liberal candidate in Peace River, quoted in the daily *Herald-Tribune* of January 13, 1966, when he said:

My understanding in this respect was that Ottawa would match dollar for dollar any assistance plans, aside from P.F.A.A., as they did in Alberta in 1959 and Ontario and Quebec in 1964 and 1965.

Mr. Greene: Mr. Speaker, I shall certainly be pleased to consider these two authorities.

Mr. Baldwin: I quoted them with scepticism.

Mr. Greene: I am not so sure about the hon. member's latter authority, but his first is beyond doubt the very highest.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): As a supplementary question I should like to ask the Minister of Agriculture if it is not true that the contribution which the federal government has made to the farmers of northern Alberta is paid out of the P.F.A.A. fund, which is made up of the contributions of the farmers themselves from the one per cent levy on grain sold and therefore is not a grant from the federal government in the same sense as the other grants to which he referred?

Mr. Greene: Mr. Speaker, this is correct, but while 50 per cent of the \$5.4 million in payments that have been made came from the farmers' contributions, \$2.7 million came from the federal treasury. Therefore the farmers in this area have already benefited from federal contributions, whereas in the provinces where drought assistance was given there had been no previous federal contribution.

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): As a supplementary question, may I ask the Minister of Agriculture how he reconciles this present action with the repeated statements made by the federal government that it would participate in any assistance program of this kind so long as the provincial governments made a request?

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR STUDY OF ACTIVITIES BY JOINT COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. A. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, may I inquire from the Prime Minister whether the government will be prepared at this session of parliament to recommend to

Inquiries of the Ministry

the house and to the other place that a special joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons be established to study the activities of the National Capital Commission and, in particular, what additional may be done on an emergent basis to prepare the national capital for the centennial of Confederation?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I will take the hon. gentleman's question under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice whether he can indicate to the House the status of what I understand was a departmental study on juvenile delinquency. If that study has been completed, when will the report be published?

Hon. Lucien Cardin (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the study has been completed. The report is now being published and it will be available shortly.

SHIPPING

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—INQUIRY AS TO ICEBREAKING POLICY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Since this is the appropriate time of the year and I know the Minister is expecting the question, I should like to ask that loveable minister from the east coast whether there has been any change in icebreaking policy in respect of the St. Lawrence? If there has been no change in that policy, why is the government assisting Russian and other foreign ships in the St. Lawrence in the way it is now doing?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the policy of the government with respect to icebreaking is the same as it was when the hon. gentleman's friends were over on this side. We are endeavouring to keep the ice broken in the St. Lawrence so there will not be flooding in the city and harbour of Montreal. We have been reasonably but, I am sorry to say, not totally successful. We will make every endeavour to see that there is no jeopardy to the safety of the port or city of Montreal or any other settlement along the St. Lawrence.