

inform the house that the questions to be considered at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: The hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette), Les États Généraux du Canada français—attendance at; the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), Canada Labour (Safety) Code—proclamation of provisions; the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge), Water Resources—suggested study by engineering body.

DRUGS

MEASURE RESPECTING OBSERVATION AND TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS

Mr. Jim McNulty (Lincoln): Mr. Speaker, the motion I am about to put has been discussed with the house leaders of all parties. By unanimous consent I move, seconded by the hon member for Chambly-Rouville (Mr. Pilon):

That the order for the second reading of Bill C-96, an act respecting observation and treatment of drug addicts, being order No. 90 under the heading "Public Bills" on today's order paper, be discharged and that the subject matter of the said bill be referred to the standing committee on justice and legal affairs.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions.

ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY SYSTEM

SUGGESTED HOUSE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE DEBT STRUCTURE, ADEQUACY OF TOLLS CHARGED, ETC.

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert) moved:

That the government should direct immediately that a committee of this house investigate generally the whole St. Lawrence waterway system, covering the area from the gulf of St. Lawrence to the head of the great lakes, and in particular to examine (a) the present debt structure of the St. Lawrence seaway authority and the adequacy of the tolls charged under the terms of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority Act including the question whether there have been breaches of the said act in the method of fixing such tolls (b) the water levels of the entire system, including the effect of shipping in the port of Montreal (c) the serious navigational accidents in the St. Lawrence river and the changes in insurance rates (d) the danger of flooding in the St. Lawrence region and the relation of ice-breaking thereto (e) the effects, economic and otherwise, of the present or any projected development of the St. Lawrence waterway system as tending to destroy the transportation contribution role of the Atlantic provinces to the unity of confederation; and to make recommendations thereon and to report from time to time.

St. Lawrence Waterway System

He said: Sir, addressing you in your capacity as Mr. Deputy Speaker, my first words would be to thank you very much for reading my motion in those careful, well modulated tones that signify you come from the Atlantic provinces. I know that in so doing you and I will have invoked the sympathy of all members of the house for this resolution. Before beginning my brief introductory remarks I wish to say I regret to some extent that this motion concerning the St. Lawrence waterway system is coming before the house at this time. It has moved very quickly on the order paper. I notice that the hon. members from Halifax, for example, are not here. I am sure they would wish to associate themselves with this motion and it is regrettable that they are absent today.

One should place on the record the reason for their unfortunate absence. They are attending the naval review. As everyone knows, this will probably be our last naval review because the government has wiped out the navy; therefore we would all want these hon. members to be present on that occasion. However, I am fortified by the knowledge that I am to be joined in my motion by the hon. member for Colchester-Hants (Mr. Kennedy) who, while he does not speak very often in this house, speaks with great authority and responsibility. I think the hon. member for seconding this motion and indicating that he might back me up with a few words.

Having said that the timing of the introduction of this motion is unfortunate in that some hon. members are away from the house, I also regret that the time of the year is not conducive to the best press relations that might flow from my motion. We in the maritimes like this type of motion to be debated in the fall when we are looking for port business and when efforts are made by upper Canadians to keep the St. Lawrence open during the winter.

• (6:10 p.m.)

Having given the reasons for my regret at the timing of the debate on the motion, I add that one or two matters do make the motion topical at this time. I read in the *Montreal Star* of Saturday, June 17, just over a week ago, the announcement in flaming headlines that a \$50 million program is to be introduced to improve the St. Lawrence. I do not know where this came from. It contains many items, and I suppose if I asked the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill) he would have some way of explaining the different items. This gives me a chance to ask where we are going. I will remind the house that only a few