

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member please ask his question.

Mr. McGrath: This is a very serious matter, Mr. Speaker, and I thought a short preamble would point up the seriousness of it. What steps is the government taking to correct the serious inadequacies in surface transportation between Newfoundland and the Mainland of Canada as a consequence of the sinking of the *Patrick Morris*?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there are two sides to the problem, one involving the transportation of cargo and the other the transportation of passengers. In so far as the passenger side of it is concerned, a number of proposals are now being considered but there is difficulty with regard to maintaining adequate service at both the western and eastern terminals. I am looking to see if there is a substitute ship which could be added during the peak summer months. On the question of the sinking of the *Patrick Morris* and a replacement, we are searching now to see if there is a vessel that might be suitable as a replacement. We are also looking at the possibility of using, during the summer months, a tow barge or a system such as that used on the west coast. A number of alternatives are being looked at and we will make an announcement as fast as we can.

AIR TRANSPORT

SERVICE BETWEEN REGINA, SWIFT CURRENT, MEDICINE HAT AND CALGARY

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport about transportation on the prairies. When will a decision be made by his department to inaugurate some type of air transportation between Regina, Swift Current, Medicine Hat and Calgary?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That question is hardly a supplementary but the minister may want to reply.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I am doing my very best to see that the hon. member gets adequate transportation to and from his headquarters. I hope that the Canadian Transport Commission will be able to make its decision on the pending applications within a very short time.

Mr. McIntosh: When? Before my old age pension is due?

[Mr. McGrath.]

IMMIGRATION

ADMISSION OF UNITED STATES DRAFT DODGERS AND DESERTERS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. In view of statements made recently by the federal government's committee on youth that United States draft dodgers and deserters admitted to Canada are getting involved in crime on a greatly increasing scale, is the government considering any new steps to try to screen such immigrants more carefully in future?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would think that the question asked by the hon. member invites a very general statement, and I would think that kind of statement ought to be made on motions. The minister might like to indicate for the benefit of the House whether such a statement is being considered.

Mr. Scott: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I do so in view of statements made by the committee on youth that a large percentage of draft dodgers and especially deserters coming into this country are poorly educated. Many of them lack trade skills or professional training and consequently a large percentage of these people have found it difficult and even impossible to find jobs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is hardly a supplementary question. It cannot be put to the House in this way. It is a submission which the hon. member must assume has been noted by the minister.

INDUSTRY

STUDY ON FOREIGN CONCESSIONAL FINANCING

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It has to do with the previous inquiry I made regarding the study of foreign concessional financing. When I asked the question the minister indicated that the study would be ready soon. Is it now ready?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, we are still trying to develop a policy statement. In the meantime we have sent one of our officers to Great Britain to discuss this matter with the British authorities. As is well known, this concessional financing is coming to Canada from Great Britain.