

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

permanent institution. I wonder whether action is being taken by the government to encourage other exhibitors to take similar action.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I think this question should be placed on the order paper.

**POLLUTION****MONTREAL—REPORTED DUMPING OF INSECTICIDES INTO ST. LAWRENCE RIVER**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has his attention been drawn to complaints about the dumping of insecticides into the St. Lawrence river near the Expo site? If so, is his department conducting an investigation into this complaint?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but my department took part in the exercises previous to present events.

[Later:]

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, arising from the fact that I have been sitting here trying to figure out what was the minister's answer to my first question. Would he advise us whether his department has some responsibility in connection with the pollution of the St. Lawrence river and complaints concerning the dumping of insecticides into the St. Lawrence?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that his question cannot be asked at this time.

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Speaker, the minister certainly gave me a vague answer. He is entitled to do this, but I think he intended to give me a real answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps this might be done at some other time. I suggest to the hon. member that the supplementary question is not in order.

**TRANSPORTATION****REPORT ON MARITIME STUDY—OPPORTUNITY FOR REPRESENTATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the lack of any

[Mr. MacDonald (Prince).]

favourable comment on the consultants' report of transportation problems in the Atlantic provinces, can the minister say whether he has devised a method to receive such comments and briefs, and if not, in what way will complaints about the said report be received?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** I think, sir, the hon. gentleman has been reading the wrong newspapers.

**Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** On a supplementary question, will the minister state whether the government is in a position to receive any comments, favourable or otherwise, on this report?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I will be very glad to receive representations from any interested person or organization. I indicated that during the discussion of my estimates, and the offer still stands.

**Mr. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** I have another supplementary question. Is there any danger that the minister and the government might act quickly on this report?

**REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ABANDONMENT HEARINGS UNTIL LEGISLATION PROCLAIMED**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. I should like to ask him whether he is prepared to accede to the request of the Manitoba Branch Line Association to postpone any abandonment hearings until such time as part I of Bill C-231 is proclaimed.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** I think, sir, I answered that question quite some time ago.

**Mr. Schreyer:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Transport whether any remedial order in council has been passed to reconcile the guaranteed prairie rail network with the assurances he gave last fall. The minister did say there was an error and that a remedial order in council might be pending.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I think the order has been passed and published in the Canada Gazette, but I confess I have been away from Ottawa for a week and I have not checked the Gazette myself. However, I will do so.