

Inquiries of the Ministry

REPORT ON THREE RIVERS BRIDGE

Motion No. 126—Mr. Vincent:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of the report submitted by Mr. H. W. Lea, hydraulic engineer, to the Minister of Transport to review plans for the Trois-Rivières bridge to study certain apprehensions of federal engineers, and to report to the minister whether, in fact, the proposed bridge constitutes a danger with regard to ice formation, or for navigation, and, if so, to propose the best way to guard against such a possibility.

Motion agreed to.

within the purview of this house and was made in this house, and my point is that the hon. member should have risen in his place and withdrawn immediately when he was requested to do so, because there has been a change in the rules governing this house. The other day the Leader of the Opposition was requested to withdraw—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The last statement is not correct. If the hon. member would read my statement today carefully he would see that his interpretation does not coincide with the position taken by the Chair.

I really do not see any purpose in continuing this discussion. It was my understanding that the hon. member did withdraw; perhaps not in the precise language which would suit the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka, but it was a withdrawal. I think we are wasting far too much time on a minor point.

Mr. Aiken: I bow to your ruling Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION

Motion No. 121—Mr. Howard:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the government or any agency or branch thereof and any other person or organization in the province of British Columbia since April 8, 1963, dealing with the question of immigration to Canada of people of Chinese origin except such correspondence from persons who are either prospective immigrants or sponsors thereof as that correspondence relates to such prospective immigrants.

Motion agreed to.

GRANTS OF ARMS TO CANADA, ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

Motion No. 124—Mr. Winkler:

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house true copies of the original grants of arms for Canada and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Motion agreed to.

TELEGRAMS RESPECTING FLAGS AND ANTHEMS

Motion No. 125—Mr. Pigeon:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all telegrams received by the Prime Minister since the introduction of the proposed resolutions concerning the two flags and the two anthems appearing on the order paper as items 44 and 45.

Motion agreed to.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN TROOPS FROM GERMANY

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I have in my hand a Canadian Press dispatch and with the leave of the house I should like to read it so I might base my question to the Prime Minister. It reads as follows:

Chancellor Ludwig Erhard of West Germany has indicated to Prime Minister Pearson that there would be alarm in his country about any withdrawal of Canadian forces from Germany.

Informants said this was one of the points made by the chancellor in his 47 minutes talk with Mr. Pearson Tuesday.

After dealing with various matters the report goes on to say that other subjects discussed included Canadian-German relations, and so on.

In view of the headline "Erhard Afraid of Canadians Pulling Out of Germany?" and the prominence given to this, would the Prime Minister make it clear—and I am sure he would be speaking for all Canadians—that the suggestion of such a course being followed would be detrimental to western unity and to the maintenance of the strength of NATO?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): The suggestion was not made by the chancellor, nor was it made by myself. Indeed, the chancellor never brought this matter up at all in the discussions we have been having.

Mr. Diefenbaker: There is no foundation, then, for the suggestion that such a thing was in the mind of the Canadian government?

Mr. Pearson: None whatever; and the matter has not been discussed with the chancellor or his party.