

ister of Finance. What portion of the \$600,000 for the anti-cigarette smoking campaign will the federal government provide?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** I would be glad to look into the question, Mr. Speaker, and give an answer tomorrow.

## DEFENCE PRODUCTION

### QUEBEC—COMPLAINTS RESPECTING TREATMENT OF ARSENAL EMPLOYEES

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Mr. Robert Beaulé (Quebec East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Defence Production.

On November 13 I asked the minister a question about the unjust treatment which had befallen the employees of the Val Cartier arsenals, near Quebec city. More than 15 days have elapsed since then, and I wonder if the minister is now able to answer my question?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry):** Mr. Speaker, first, I may tell the hon. member that I am aware of what is going on at the Val Cartier arsenals. The Val Cartier plant has been given less work lately, and consequently employment has dropped. However, we are doing our best to try and find jobs for those who have been laid off.

**Mr. Beaulé:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I am not speaking of the employees who have been laid off, but of the treatment which is meted out to those people who are still employed.

**Mr. Drury:** According to my information, Mr. Speaker, those who have stayed on are treated quite well.

[Text]

## NATIONAL DEFENCE

### FORT CHURCHILL—FUTURE PLANS FOR USE BY ARMED SERVICES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. Is the minister in a position to give a further report in relation to the plans of his department concerning the future use of Fort Churchill by various branches of the armed forces?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is anything I could usefully add at this time.

**Mr. Simpson:** As a supplementary question, could the minister say when he may be able to make such a report?

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## Inquiries of the Ministry

**Mr. Hellyer:** I would hope it would not be too long, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker may I ask the Minister of National Defence whether the report appearing in the newspaper today with regard to the proposed closing of Fort Churchill for army purposes is accurate, plus the other reports with regard to general cutting down of the services?

**Mr. Hellyer:** I have not seen that report, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Churchill:** You don't see any of these reports.

## BRIDGES

### THREE RIVERS, QUE.—COST OF PROTECTION OF NAVIGATION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur):** I should like to ask the Minister of Transport a question. Does the government now have in hand an estimate of the cost of the protection of the navigable waters in the St. Lawrence which protection will follow from the erection of the proposed bridge at Three Rivers?

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Fisher:** I should like to ask a supplementary question. Is this estimate of cost any factor at all in the government's reconsideration of the order in council relating to this project and, if so, when does the minister think he can give us an explanation of the government's final position?

**Mr. McIlraith:** The cost is very heavy, Mr. Speaker. The responsibility for building the bridge is not that of the federal government, as I think the hon. member knows. The responsibility of the federal government is that of protecting the water in the St. Lawrence river, which is the navigable stream, the shipping route. The estimate of the cost is very substantial and is a consequence of the location of piers for the bridge.

**Mr. Fisher:** I should like to ask whether the government was not seized of this information or did not try to get the information at the time the proposal was put before this parliament.

**Mr. McIlraith:** I do not know what information the former government had; that would be their responsibility. I am not able to say what information they had on this subject.