

*Inquiries of the Ministry***BRIDGES****LOCATION OF HEAVY WATER PLANT****Motion No. 173—Mr. Douglas:**

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all correspondence between any department of the federal government or any of its agencies and any other person or persons regarding the location of the proposed heavy water plant.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, this is subject to the usual reservation that correspondence, if any, between governments be tabled subject to the approval of the provincial governments concerned.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is agreed to, subject to the reservation of the minister.

Motion agreed to.

REQUEST TO RUSSIA FOR RELEASE OF CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING HALIBUT FISHERY**Motion No. 175—Mr. Howard:**

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the governments of Canada and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics relating to the making public of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the two said governments regarding the halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) fishery.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the desired effect has been attained and I should like to withdraw this motion.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH LEGION ON CANADIAN FLAG**Motion No. 176—Mr. Ormiston:**

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all correspondence between the Prime Minister and the Royal Canadian Legion on the subject of a Canadian flag since April 22, 1963.

Motion agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF POSTMASTER, JACQUET RIVER, N.B.**Motion No. 177—Mr. MacRae:**

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all correspondence, telegrams, documents and other papers, including memos or records of telephone conversations between the Postmaster General or any of the officials or employees of the Post Office Department and Mr. Douglas Pettigrew, M.C., Jacquet River, N.B., Mr. Raymond Doucet, M.L.A., Durham Centre, N.B., and others in connection with the appointment of a postmaster at Jacquet River, N.B.

Mr. Denis: I have no objection to the adoption of this motion and to the tabling of all official correspondence.

Motion agreed to.

THREE RIVERS, QUE.—POSSIBLE REVOCATION OF ORDER IN COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Could he tell us, once and for all, whether the Three Rivers bridge corporation has received the necessary authorization to undertake the construction of the said bridge?

[Text]

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): I do not know whether the hon. member for Three Rivers wants me to give a legal opinion, but I may say that it is a body incorporated under a provincial statute, and I presume it has the necessary statutory authority.

Mr. Balcer: I just want the facts. I should like the minister to tell us, once and for all, if the present government is going to defer approval that was already given by the previous government for the construction of this long awaited bridge.

Mr. McIlraith: Perhaps I should explain to the house that an order in council was passed by the previous government under date of March 4, 1963, the validity of which I have seen fit to call into question because of its contents and form. This matter has not yet been settled. The reason the matter got any notice at all when the order in council was discovered was that the work proposed would involve interfering with the flow of the St. Lawrence river in the spring of the year in a way that it would be very expensive to remedy, and would involve possibly severe interruption in the use of the river.

Mr. Balcer: May I ask a supplementary question. I wonder if the minister is aware that the order in council in question was adopted following a complete survey of the whole question, and that there was an undertaking from the federal government to construct certain works in the river. Following the passage of this order in council the bridge corporation decided to go ahead with construction, and they are going to let the contract within a few weeks for the construction of this \$35 million bridge.

Mr. McIlraith: I am not aware of the assertions contained in the hon. member's statement. There was some lack of completeness in the information in the files, so much so that I asked the hon. member if he would consider making available his files on the subject so I could get more information than was in the files I had available. I should point out that