[English]

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Well, Mr. Speaker, that always has been a sensitive point so far as I am concerned. In this particular case longshoremen in other parts of the country are respecting the law and unloading the ships, so that in terms of this particular dispute, outside of the ports in question, the law is being respected.

## PUBLIC WORKS

DREDGING—EXTENT OF COVERAGE OF GUIDELINES FOR NEW CONTRACTS—CONSULTATION WITH MUNICIPALITIES TO REMEDY DEFICIENCIES IN GUIDELINES

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works further to his statement of May 2 on dredging guidelines and their adequacy. Can the hon. gentleman assure the House that all dredging performed in Canadian harbours is covered by the guidelines on dredging he announced on Friday.

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Generally speaking, Mr. Speaker, the guidelines cover all dredging done by federal agencies.

Mr. MacKay: I have a brief supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Since at least two of the indictments levelled against dredging companies involve dredging performed in harbours not under the National Harbours Board Act, can the minister inform the House what steps the government is taking to include such work in these guidelines and could he advise whether he has been consulting with the commissions and municipalities who have representatives on such commissions so that the apparent deficiencies in the guidelines can be remedied.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I am not quite sure what is meant by apparent deficiencies in the guidelines, but we will be offering the same kind of services to other public bodies by way of advice and counsel that we are ourselves following.

DREDGING—APPLICABILITY OF GUIDELINES TO HARBOURS OPERATED BY COMMISSIONS

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): I have a further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the hon. gentleman simply tell us whether he has been in effect addressing himself to the problems implicit in the fact that so many of the major harbours in this country are operated by commissions, like the Hamilton Harbour for example, and what has he done to make sure that these guidelines are applied under these circumstances?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I think the House will be well aware that jurisdiction over the Hamilton Harbour does not fall under the Parliament of Canada nor under the control of the federal government.

An hon. Member: That is the point.

## Oral Questions

Mr. Drury: What the Hamilton Harbour commissioners decide is in their best interests is for them to decide and is not something to be dictated by the federal government.

DREDGING—POSSIBILITY TENDERS WERE CALLED FROM COMPANIES UNDER INDICTMENT PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF GUIDELINES

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Can the minister advise the House whether the government called for tenders from those dredging companies presently being charged prior to the minister's announcement to this House on Friday of the safeguards he will be applying in respect of this matter?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, there is quite a chronological range of arrangements with some of the companies currently under charge. The Department of Public Works has contracts running from last year which were entered into a year ago and subsequently, fairly early in the year, there were calls for tender made and there will be some more. So, it runs all the way from existing contracts to future calls for tender.

Mr. Lawrence: Will the safeguards, if they are to mean anything at all, apply to the contracts already let this year?

Mr. Drury: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

• (1420)

## **IMMIGRATION**

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF MEANINGFUL PUBLIC DISCUSSION IN VIEW OF ALLEGATION GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED ON POLICY

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration I should like to direct my question to the Acting Prime Minister. This matter raises questions as to the integrity of government pronouncements, something which is of great seriousness to the joint committee studying the green paper on immigration. In light of reports that a basic immigration policy has already been tentatively approved by the cabinet, reports based on interviews with senior immigration officials, can the Acting Prime Minister assure the House that the public discussions will be more than simply public relations exercises on something the federal government finds distasteful to enact?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I can give a positive answer to that question. The cabinet has not discussed future immigration policy. We are awaiting the report of the Joint Committee on Immigration Policy.

Mr. Baldwin: You left out two commas.

Mr. Epp: Can the Acting Prime Minister then state, in light of the answer he has just given to the House, in what light are the Prime Minister's statements at the Common-