

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Has the minister yet read the representations with regard to this matter submitted to him by the civil service association of Ottawa?

**Mr. Fleming:** The minister has read a vast quantity of material, and this, together with other information, is being digested and reviewed.

**Mr. Daniel McIvor (Fort William):** A supplementary question. Will the minister remember that we will have a resolution on this matter before the house next Monday, when the whole question may be fully discussed?

**Mr. Fleming:** I can tell the hon. gentlemen that I doubt whether the material which is being gathered on this subject can be complete before next Monday. Perhaps hon. members do not fully appreciate the amount of work which is being expended in the gathering of statistical material on this subject. It is not ready yet, although a great deal of work is being expended on it.

### IMMIGRATION

#### HUNGARIAN REFUGEES—REPORTED CONDUCT WHILE AWAITING RETURN TO EUROPE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. I like asking him questions because he usually gives sequential answers. Has his attention been drawn to press reports of the antics of a number of so-called Hungarian freedom fighters near Montreal who are in desperate haste to return to tyranny?

Second, can the minister give the house any information on this incident and demonstration of ingratitude in response to Canadian generosity?

**Hon. E. D. Fulton (Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration):** I thank the hon. gentleman for his kind words, and for having given me notice of his intention to ask this question.

My attention has been drawn, by reports in the press and reports from the department, to the incidents which have been described in such picturesque language by the hon. member in his question. In answer I can only say that it seems to me that the entirely unwarranted and unreasonable conduct of these particular malcontents indicates the soundness of the decision to return this group as soon as possible to the country from which they came.

[Later:]

**Mr. Fulton:** Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to supplement with some factual information the answer I gave to the hon. member for Kootenay West, which I overlooked when I was on my feet earlier. I should make it clear that the actions I referred to in my answer a moment ago were the actions of only a portion of the group totalling, I am told, 163 altogether, who have been gathered together in Montreal for the purpose of being returned to Hungary.

This, I am sure the house will agree, is in total a very satisfactorily small percentage of the total number of Hungarian refugees who have come to this country and to whose successful settlement in Canada as future Canadian citizens we look forward. I think in fairness to the total group it should be pointed out that it is a very small percentage who have indicated a desire to return, and an infinitesimally small percentage who behave in this manner.

### WATER POLLUTION

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION RESPECTING BOUNDARY WATERS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Sidney E. Smith (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, on December 4, the hon. member for Laurier (Mr. Chevrier) addressed a question to me and he inquired if the government would direct to the international joint commission the pollution of the waters of lake St. Louis, in the same manner as the complaint concerning lake St. Francis was referred to the commission.

Before I answer, I thank the hon. member for Laurier for having provided clarification of his question, which appeared somewhat obscure to us. I understand now that the real point of his question is that because of lower water levels in lake St. Louis there has been an aggravation of the problem of sewage and waste disposal, and therefore my hon. friend has asked whether the St. Lawrence river joint board of engineers would be asked to inquire into the matter.

In answer may I say that the St. Lawrence river joint board of engineers could only take action, of course, if there were a diminution of the flow of water into lake St. Francis and lake St. Louis in consequence of construction work in the international rapids section. I have now received the monthly return made by the international St. Lawrence river board of control to the international joint commission for the month of November, 1957. It shows the mean monthly discharge at the international rapids section as 218,000