Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, if there is any personal imputation that is taken by my hon. friend I shall be glad to withdraw any personal imputation but on general principle I stand on exactly what I said. I will be glad of the opportunity of debating this matter and expressing my views on the floor of the house when the report on capital punishment comes before the House of Commons for discussion.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ISRAEL—INQUIRY REGARDING EXPORT PERMITS
FOR AIRCRAFT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs and ask him whether he is in a position to advise, now that several weeks have gone by since consideration commenced on the part of the cabinet respecting the issue of export permits for fighter and jet aircraft to Israel, whether a decision has been arrived at to allow such export to take place. What is the present position of the matter? When does the minister expect, if a decision has not been made already, that a decision will be arrived at? Urgency seems to be of the essence.

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend gave me notice yesterday morning of this question and in reply I would say that individual applications for export permits are considered each on its merits, as has been previously reported to parliament. The specific question of jet aircraft is under consideration by the government and in reaching any decision the views of other countries concerned are and will be taken into account.

Mr. Diefenbaker: May I ask a supplementary question. Have any of the great powers suggested to Canada that it would be in order for Canada to issue export permits? Has there been any indication that such action on the part of Canada would meet with the approval of Great Britain and the United States?

Mr. Martin: I believe my hon. friend will agree readily that in these matters careful consideration should be given to every aspect of the problem. This is a matter of great importance and I do not want to add anything now to what I have said already.

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Inquiries of the Ministry
GRAIN

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REPORTED CLOSING OF ELEVATOR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. G. J. Hahn (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Winters) perhaps the acting minister can take my question as notice if he is not in a position to answer. Would the minister make a statement in connection with a newspaper article in the British Columbian of June 27 to the effect that the Searle Grain Company might close the elevator because ships could not reach the dock by reason of the fact that the south side of the Fraser river is not dredged sufficiently often to allow ships to proceed to and from the elevator without danger of being caught on a sandbar?

Hon. James Sinclair (Acting Minister of Public Works): I shall draw that matter to the attention of my colleague and I would hope there will be an answer early in the week.

BRIDGES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST THAT FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATE IN COST OF
CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Winters) or in his absence to the minister acting in that capacity. Would the minister comment on an article in the June 27 issue of the British Columbian to the effect that the British Columbia government has made a formal application to Ottawa to have the federal government pay half the construction costs of two lower mainland bridges and the Deas island tunnel? I might say that notice of this question and a copy of the article were sent to the minister's office.

Hon. James Sinclair (Acting Minister of Public Works): I am sure that is a question which the Minister of Public Works would want to answer himself and I shall draw it to his attention.

CANCER

REFERENCE TO SURVEY ON RESULTS OF SMOKING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Daniel McIvor (Fort William): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare a question arising out of an article which appeared in the