

Inquiries of the Ministry

Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that the cessation of the winter works program will create a real hardship on municipalities which had planned on building homes for the aged with the help of these funds, does the government have any plans whereby they can assist in these worthy and urgent projects?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we have no additional plans except the additional funds that we are putting into training and retraining programs this winter.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware of, and is he doing anything about, the very serious and rising rate of unemployment in the Atlantic provinces?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, we welcomed the statement by the minister on Monday that large amounts of money would be spent by his department in the coming winter. Could the minister tell us whether he is willing to make a statement in the house as to the nature of the expenditures and, if so, when this statement will be forthcoming?

Mr. MacEachen: I will be glad to provide that information, Mr. Speaker.

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON FERRY SERVICE,
SAINT JOHN, N.B.—DIGBY, N.S.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. It arises out of the promise made during the election campaign that the new Digby-Saint John ferry service would come into operation soon. Could the minister now tell us whether we are to receive this service soon?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the C.P.R. has received tenders for the new ship but a contract has not yet been entered into. As my hon. friend knows, the arrangement that is being worked out with the water transportation committee of the Canadian Transport Commission is that the C.P.R. will acquire and provide a ship and the government will assist in arriving at an arrangement between the two parties. As far as

[Mr. Noble.]

I know everything is proceeding quite satisfactorily. I can reassure my hon. friend that the long-awaited service will not be delayed further.

Mr. Comeau: Will the minister tell us how much longer we have to wait?

Mr. Hellyer: As long as it takes to build the ship and the terminal, approximately.

[Translation]

TELEVISION

QUEBEC—REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING
EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the hon. Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier).

With regard to the Minister's statement as to the establishment of a federal educational broadcasting agency, would the Minister tell the house whether he received representations from the province of Quebec or from other provinces?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, we did receive representations. As far as I know, we did not get any from the province of Quebec but we received some from a few other provinces.

Mr. Andre Fortin (Lotbinière): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, could the Secretary of State not table the text of those representations for the future guidance of the members?

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, this would be somewhat difficult. As a matter of fact, this concerns two provinces, represented by groups of officials from the Department of Education. They came to make verbal representations and discuss the matter with us, by word of mouth, so there are really no documents I could table in the house.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ST. LÉONARD, QUE.—INQUIRY AS TO
SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): I intended to put a question to the Solicitor General of Canada (Mr. McIlraith), but in view of his absence I shall direct it to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Turner).

We are told that the persons responsible for the school integration movement at Saint-Léonard have been for some time under the