

Inquiries of the Ministry

opportunity to listen to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation programs, will the minister inform the house what action the government intends to take to remedy this long-standing injustice?

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, the question, without the flowers, was sent over to me after the opening of the house. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation programming is a matter under the control of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The matter of providing funds for that corporation is the responsibility of the government and, as the hon. gentleman will see by looking at the estimates, this government this year has provided several millions of dollars more to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation than has ever been provided before. I know it is the intention of the corporation to proceed with an expanding service in various communities within the next few months.

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY**INQUIRY AS TO DECISION RESPECTING TOLLS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. H. McMillan (Welland): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, of which I sent notice to his office. When will a decision be reached concerning the proposed shipping toll charges on the St. Lawrence seaway and Welland canals? Will these proposed toll charges be tabled in the house and an opportunity given to members to consider them?

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. member for his courtesy in advising me of his intention to ask this question. The Canadian-United States toll committees have not yet completed their work. Once a decision has been reached, public announcement will be made and hearings will be held at Ottawa by the St. Lawrence seaway authority and at Washington by the St. Lawrence seaway development corporation.

If hon. members wish to express their views on these tolls or on what they think they should be, they are quite free to do so in the debate on the address.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**WILLIAM HEIKKILA—REPORTED DETENTION IN VANCOUVER JAIL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Justice or, in his absence, to his parliamentary assistant who perhaps will take it as notice.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): There is no parliamentary assistant.

Mr. Winch: Has the attention of the Minister of Justice been drawn to the case of William Heikkila of San Francisco, who was placed by United States immigration authorities in the Vancouver jail under a false name, held incommunicado for some 39 hours and not brought before a justice of the peace or judge on any charge as required by Canadian law?

If so, can the Minister of Justice inform the house whether an investigation is being made relative to the matter, and can he inform the house as to whether or not there is any Canadian-United States agreement or treaty under which a foreign power can detain a non-Canadian citizen in a Canadian jail, contrary to Canadian law?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): I shall be very glad to draw these questions to the attention of the appropriate minister.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**STATEMENT ON SEASONAL BENEFIT PAYMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Timmins asked me a question relating to the percentage of unemployed workers who were presently receiving seasonal benefits. The answer is as follows.

On April 30 the percentage figure of persons receiving seasonal benefits related to the total number of active claimants was 30 per cent. In answer to the second part of the question I can only say that on March 31, a month earlier, the same ratio was in the neighbourhood of 27 per cent. The reason for this is that the number of registrations declined during the period, causing an increase in the proportion of those on seasonal benefits.

INCOME TAX**PREMIUM IRON ORES—CANADIAN REPRESENTATIONS TO U.S. GOVERNMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Sidney E. Smith (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Port Arthur asked this question:

Can the minister tell the house whether the Canadian ambassador to the United States has in recent weeks made either a public statement or any official representation to the state department on his government's position in the Premium Iron Ores tax case?

The Canadian ambassador to the United States did not take any initiative in respect