

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. McIlraith:** Mr. Speaker, one of the very things the engineers will be doing now is to check if the cause of this problem is too powerful charges, or if it is due to faulty detonation, to the wrong sequence, or to some fault in the rock. The whole aspect of this dynamiting is being checked.

[Translation]

**TELEVISION**

## DISCUSSIONS RESPECTING ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL SYSTEMS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Following the offer made by the Board of Broadcast Governors, to give the provinces assistance for the establishment of educational television, does the Prime Minister intend to discuss that proposal early next week with the provincial premiers who will meet in Ottawa?

[English]

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, it is not on the agenda, but any provincial head of government could bring it up under the item "other business".

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

## CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.—FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMORIAL BUILDING

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Melvin McQuaid (Kings):** My question is directed to the Secretary of State. In the light of this morning's report in the Canadian Press that the Fathers of Confederation memorial building in Charlottetown is in serious financial difficulties because of the lack of operating capital, I should like to ask the hon. lady if the federal government is prepared to immediately provide the money necessary to keep this national shrine open?

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State):** Well, Mr. Speaker, I think it has been known ever since the building was first designed and erected that it would be in financial difficulty and ever since then the trustees have done everything they could to augment their income from normal sources. I think there is no question but that it has been wonderful for Prince Edward Island to have the centre there.

In the past I have had some discussions with the trustees and have also discussed with my colleagues the continuing problem

[Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria).]

which is now becoming acute. When the government has a statement to make, it will announce it in due course.

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the hon. lady if she has recently received an urgent request from anyone with regard to a further grant from the federal government toward the operating expenses of this building, in view of the financial urgency of the situation?

Can she also say if such a request has been received, when a reply might be expected?

**Miss LaMarsh:** Yes, I have received such a request, and a reply will be forwarded as soon as the government has determined its position.

**HOUSING**

## PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO—REPORTED CUT-OFF OF C.M.H.C. LOANS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary):** I wish to address my question to the Minister of Labour. Is the minister prepared to answer the question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Hastings-Frontenac (Mr. Webb) as to the cutting off of C.M.H.C. loans? My reason for asking is that I am reliably informed that two of the largest areas in my own constituency have had such loans cut off; the reason being given is that no money is available.

**Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour):** I am very happy to be able to answer the question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Hastings-Frontenac. At that time I intimated that I did not think that all loans had been cut off in Peterborough and I find that to be correct. In recent weeks there has actually been a marked improvement in loans in that area and elsewhere.

Perhaps I should preface this remark by reminding hon. members that on May 3, 1966 I announced that C.M.H.C. had been authorized to make as many direct loans in 1966 as in 1965, when 31,500 direct loans were approved.

On August 1 the corporation began to accept applications from merchant builders building houses for sale. Since August 1 some 85 loans have been made to merchant builders and 23 loans have been made to home owner applicants for a total of 108 loans in the Peterborough district. This is slightly above the 1965 activity when 104 direct loans were made, 81 to builders and 23 to home