

Inquiries of the Ministry

reasons, of which I am unaware at the moment, I could assure him that the question will be discussed on the adjournment motion this evening.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, I really believe that it is an urgent matter, since it refers to a violation of the most elementary rights guaranteed by democratic freedom.

Now here is an official member, a leader of a political party from whose home a member's list is taken—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The ruling of the Chair in this matter cannot be debated and the hon. member will surely admit that if there is really a question of emergency, he will have an opportunity to comment when the question is deferred for debate on the adjournment motion tonight.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, may I reword my question so that I be in order? Could the Solicitor General order an inquest on the facts I mentioned and tell us if they are real and, also, if they were contrary to democratic freedom?

Mr. Speaker: Order. As the first and second questions of the hon. member are not basically different, I suggest that the hon. member consider the possibility to defer the question for debate on the adjournment motion.

[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**BARRIEFIELD, ONT.—INVESTIGATION FOLLOWING SCALDING OF CHILD**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, I have an urgent question to ask of the Associate Minister of National Defence. It arises out of a tragic accident last Friday in Kingston when a three year old child fell into a hole full of scalding water. This condition is said to have been created by a leaking underground steam pipe which forms part of the heating system of the building of the Department of National Defence at Barriefield. The question I would like to ask the minister is—surely, Mr. Speaker, I don't hear hon. members laughing over this incident? My question is: Will a full investigation be held so that the reason for this tragedy can be ascertained? This young girl is now fighting for her life in Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston, with 75 per cent of her body cruelly scalded as a result of this accident.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Associate Minister of National Defence): There is an investigation presently going on, Mr. Speaker, and we are indeed very sorry for this painful incident.

Mr. Alkenbrack: As a supplementary, will the minister have a full investigation in order that these conditions may be remedied to prevent a repetition?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am sure the minister has noted the representations made by the hon. member.

HISTORIC SITES**PRESERVATION OF INDIAN SHRINE, MISTASENI**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. D. McLelland (Rosetown-Biggart): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Now that the rising waters of the South Saskatchewan river have surrounded the Cree Indian shrine known as Mistaseni, I would like to ask the minister what arrangements have been made to preserve at least a portion of this historic shrine?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I certainly do not want to be too restrictive on these questions, but if the hon. member is referring to a situation which has already occurred—although perhaps I do not understand the problem—I suggest that he place the question on the order paper or, if there is urgency, that it be debated later today.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the question of urgency I would point out that so long as the waters were removed from this shrine there was no particular urgency. But now that the waters have surrounded the shrine, as the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart says, if we are going to wait the normal length of time for an answer to a question on the order paper the shrine will be inundated. In view of the circumstances, surely the minister would be in a position to answer the question now?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, inquiries were made with respect to the removal of this rock and the estimated cost of removal of the whole rock came to something in the neighbourhood of \$75,000. I repeat that this was only an estimate, and the actual cost could have been more than that. It was deemed that this removal would not be practicable.