

*Inquiries of the Ministry***HEALTH AND WELFARE****MONTREAL—REPORTED AIR
POLLUTION PROBLEM**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Have the health officials of the city of Montreal brought to his attention the serious air pollution problem that has developed in the city of Montreal in the last few days, asking that exhaust control features on motor vehicles be made a national standard the same as they will be in Ontario and the United States?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am wondering if the hon. member is not repeating a question he asked a few days ago.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, I am not repeating a question I have asked in this house previously. Because of conditions in Montreal that are obvious to all hon. members of the house there is an urgent situation in that city, and I have asked the minister, because of that specific condition which has arisen in the last few days, whether city health officials did bring representations to the government of Canada.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any such representations, but I have been away for a short time and I will check when I get back to my office.

**CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION****INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the worsening economic situation on Cape Breton island may I ask the hon. gentleman whether he is yet in a position to give further information to the house concerning the Cape Breton Development Corporation, specifically with regard to personnel and so on.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the government approved today the nomination of four members of the board. They are R. B. Cameron of Balderwood, Halifax county, N.S.; R. I. Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, N.S.; D. O. Hartigan of Sydney Mines, N.S., and M.

[Mr. Winters.]

Alex Leishman of Toronto. I might add that there are two more to come, and that Mr. Grant and Mr. Hartigan were recommended by the government of Nova Scotia.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister when this board will take over and the corporation will begin to function. Further, has any figure been agreed upon to be paid to Dosco for the mining properties that are to be acquired and, if so, what is that figure?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, the corporation came into legal being on October 1. With respect to the second question on the acquisition of the mine I might say that the procedure of acquisition has already started because an inventory of Dosco property is being made, as foreseen in the legislation. People in charge of this had a meeting in Montreal yesterday on that subject.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question and I do so because of the attitude of Dosco in its recent announcement about closing its steel mill. I would ask the minister, as he was also asked during passage of the corporation legislation, if he will assure hon. members of this house that any price paid to Dosco will first be approved by this house, and the matter will not be left entirely in the hands of the board.

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, the legislation anticipates three ways by which the purchase of the mine could be made. The first is by mutual consent, the second is by arbitration, and the third by expropriation. I think it would not be rational not to begin with discussions between the corporation and the company in order to find out if they could come to mutual agreement.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I direct a further supplementary to the Minister of Justice. Would the Minister of Justice take a careful look at the recent agreement signed by Dosco with the provincial and federal governments, whereby financial assistance was made available to Dosco? Would he examine that agreement as to whether or not there has been a breach of contract?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is making a suggestion to the minister that I am sure will be taken into account.