

Inquiries of the Ministry

a view to assisting. The government will look into it with a view to determining whether or not the situation is one that requires assistance, and then give consideration to whatever may be found in its first investigation.

Mr. G. A. Cruickshank (Fraser Valley): As a supplementary question, may I ask the Prime Minister when that will be done?

Mr. St. Laurent: I am afraid I am not in a position to forecast how long it will take. It will be done immediately, and under instructions to proceed as expeditiously as may be reasonable.

Mr. Rodney Young (Vancouver Centre): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs, based on the telegram mentioned by the member for Vancouver East (Mr. MacInnis). In that telegram the Canadian Legion provincial command states that the number of those who have been receiving veterans grants—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I would ask the hon. member to put his question.

Mr. Young: Will the minister say whether it is possible to extend the grants which have now run out, to assist veterans who are unemployed in Vancouver?

PENSIONS**QUESTION AS TO NATIONAL PLAN WITH RESPECT TO INCURABLES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. W. Burton (Humboldt): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Has the minister received representations from individuals and organizations seeking a national pension plan for incurables? Will the minister be prepared to make a statement now, or at an early day?

Hon. Paul Martin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. With regard to the second part of the question, I can add nothing more at this time to what I said in answer to a similar question on Friday last.

HARBOURS AND RIVERS**VICTORIA BEACH, N.S., BREAKWATER—WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OR EXTENSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. George C. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings): In view of press reports relating to the danger to the fishing fleet at Victoria Beach because of the condition of the break-

water, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. I have already sent him notice of it. Have appropriations been provided for the construction or extension of the breakwater at Victoria Beach? If work has not yet commenced on this undertaking, when will it be proceeded with?

Hon. Alphonse Fournier (Minister of Public Works): I wish to thank the hon. gentleman for sending me a copy of his question. In the supplementary estimates of last year an item of \$20,000 was voted for this work. Actually our engineers in Halifax are preparing plans and specifications, and we expect to have them ready some time in March. The moment they are ready, we will ask for tenders and proceed with the work.

PRICES AND TRADE BOARD**DECISION OF ONTARIO SUPREME COURT IN MCGINN CASE**

Mr. H. W. Timmins (Parkdale): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Has the minister given consideration to the effect of the decision handed down yesterday by the supreme court of Ontario in the McGinn case as to the present validity and force of the wartime prices and trade board order with respect to prices?

Hon. Douglas Abbott (Minister of Finance): I have seen only newspaper reports of the decision in question. I have not yet received a report from the legal advisers of the wartime prices and trade board.

GANDER AIRPORT**QUESTION AS TO LANDING RIGHTS FOR COMMERCIAL COMPANIES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. George A. Drew (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I should like to know under what authority the information was conveyed about two weeks ago to embassies, ministries or other official offices of those countries in which there are companies which have commercial air operations going through Gander, to the effect that they would not have commercial landing rights at Gander on and after April 1 next.

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The hon. member was not able to give me notice of his question.

Mr. Drew: I learned about it only as I came into the house.

Mr. Pearson: I am not in a position to give the hon. member a reply now, but I will look into the matter and see if a reply can be given to him tomorrow or the next day.