

## Oral Questions

• (1510)

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS****PROPOSED WEST COAST OIL TANKER ROUTE—POSSIBLE CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT POSITION**

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to an earlier series of questions and is addressed to the Minister of the Environment. In reply to a question about tanker routes addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on February 23, which appears on page 1591 of *Hansard*, I received the following answer:

Whether they—

Meaning the United States of America.

—should go to another point farther down the United States coast is a matter for the United States itself to decide.

Today we hear the Minister of the Environment suggesting that the United States should be directing its oil farther down the coast. I should like to ask the Minister of the Environment if this is a change in policy?

**Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, it makes a lot of sense for Canadians to want that oil, if in fact it ever moves down the west coast, to move to California which would be its principal destination.

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**INCOME TAX****VARIATION IN INDIVIDUAL RETURNS MADE OUT BY TAX CONSULTANTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

**Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Revenue. Several weeks ago I brought to the attention of the minister the fact that when the work of tax offices was checked in filling out individual income tax forms, 11 different results were found to have been submitted to the Department of National Revenue. Has the minister investigated this situation or is he taking any action in relation to the kind of service provided to individual taxpayers by tax offices of all kinds and natures in this country?

**Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, the department has monitored as far as possible the returns which appear to be coming from tax consulting firms. There seems to be no pattern of error in them so far, and the error rate generally is considerably lower this year than in the past. However, I am giving consideration to the desirability of having people who prepare tax returns for a fee identify themselves on the forms in future. I am not sure yet what steps might be necessary to do this but it is a possibility worth considering.

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**CONSUMER AFFAIRS****POSSIBLE MISLEADING ADVERTISING BY TAX CONSULTANTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

**Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Consumer and

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact the minister's portfolio relates to consumer affairs, can he inform the House whether he is taking any action in the area of advertising by these tax offices which suggest that they can be of service to the Canadian population by accurately filling out tax forms?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I believe I have already informed the House that I would be asking officers of my department to examine this kind of advertising to see to what extent it comes under the law on misleading advertising.

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**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****SCOPE OF JOB INQUIRIES TO BE MADE TO QUALIFY FOR BENEFITS**

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In light of the fact that some workers across the country are reporting every week and oftener at Canada Manpower Centres, the official government employment agency, looking for employment without success, it is necessary that he or she also search for work in other areas in order to qualify for UIC benefits and if so, how many searches, and has this fact been well advertised so that workers know that this is a new interpretation of the regulations?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I think I have answered that question several times in the House before but to repeat, yes, there is a requirement not only to depend on the services of Canada Manpower or not only to depend on the services of union hiring halls where they exist, but to seek work beyond that so that no avenue is left unexplored. This situation has been made known reasonably well to workers across the country but I repeat it and hope it will be publicized again.

**Mr. Muir:** In view of the fact that applicants for employment are continually unsuccessful in securing employment at CMC offices, can the minister advise where a man or woman can find employment apart from CMC offices in a region where the unemployment rate is 20 per cent and higher?

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, the active search for work as a requirement of the act is not enforced as rigorously in areas where it is known that unemployment is that high. If the hon. member has a specific example of where this has been overstressed, I would appreciate the details so that I can take the necessary steps.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. We have reached the end of the question period but I was hoping to recognize two or three members who have not had an opportunity to ask questions or supplementaries in this or the last couple of question periods. The hon. member for Hamilton West.