

VETERANS AFFAIRS

ISSUE OF MEDALS TO FIREFIGHTERS WHO SERVED OVERSEAS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. A. Webb (Hastings-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Would he kindly advise the house of his answer to the letter of March 1 from the corps of voluntary fire fighters?

Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the hon. member for letting me know he would ask this question. Unfortunately I have not yet seen the letter to which he is referring. I presume it is in connection with service medals for the fire fighters and I would direct him to the answer I gave the Leader of the Opposition on February 20, which can be found at page 13213 of *Hansard*.

Mr. Webb: As a supplementary question, when the minister has an opportunity to read this letter would he give serious consideration to the striking of a centennial medal to honour the voluntary firemen who served in world war II?

FISHERIES

LOBSTERS—ENCOURAGEMENT OF DEEP SEA INDUSTRY IN NOVA SCOTIA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the findings established by survey crews from the fisheries research board's biological station at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, relative to the high yield of lobsters on the southeast corner of George's Bank, is the minister contemplating any changes in the lobster fishing industry in Nova Scotia?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the survey referred to by the hon. member is being studied and reviewed by officials of my department. I am not in a position to decide now if such a lobster fishery as referred to by the hon. member could be instituted this year.

Mr. Crouse: As a supplementary question may I ask, for the benefit of the inshore lobster fishing industry, whether the tagging process has established if the resource is dependent upon offshore stocks for replacement?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: I must confess I know very little about this tagging process but I doubt very much that this is a question which should be asked at this time.

REPORT OF COMMISSION ON INLAND FISH MARKETING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. Has the government to date given any consideration to the report of the royal commission on inland fish marketing? Can the minister say whether this matter has reached the determination stage?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the decision concerning implementation of the recommendations contained in this report comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Trade and Commerce. I can inform the hon. member, however, that at least two and probably three meetings have already been held by officials of the federal government and representatives of the provincial governments concerned.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND U.S. PRESIDENT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. When the meeting takes place on March 8 between himself and President Johnson in Washington can the Prime Minister give us some indication what subjects will be discussed and whether the Mercantile Bank situation might be one of the subjects discussed at this meeting?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the President has invited me to meet him. Naturally I shall be glad to discuss anything he brings up. He is the host and therefore I will leave the initiative to him.

Mr. Starr: Will the Prime Minister be consulting over the hot line to Jamaica prior to this meeting?

Mr. Pearson: I am unable to catch the import of my hon. friend's question.