

certain special needs. Facilities now available in urban areas are not universally present in rural Canada at the moment. That will be a high priority item in the meetings I expect to have with these leaders across the country very shortly.

* * *

PORNOGRAPHY

AMENDMENT OF CRIMINAL CODE'S DEFINITION OF OBSCENE AND PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

Mrs. Jennifer Cossitt (Leeds-Grenville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. The Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs made a number of recommendations in its report in 1978, as did the Badgley Committee Report on sexual abuse of children, and the Fraser Committee Report on pornography and prostitution. When will the Minister take the courageous step, which previous Liberal Governments failed to take, and introduce important legislation which will respond to those recommendations, and amend Section 159 of the Criminal Code to define what is deemed to be obscene and pornographic?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I agree with the Hon. Member that the failure to act in previous years was deplorable. I am sure we will have considerable support from the Official Opposition to make up for that failure when we introduce proposals, which will certainly be in the House during the month of April, to tackle this very important issue. This area of the laws of Canada needs to be reformed and tightened up.

* * *

[Translation]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

FUTURE OF QUEBEC SHIPBUILDING YARDS

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. The Minister knows perfectly well that hundreds of workers are out in the cold. They have come from Lauzon at Versatile Davie to get an answer they have been waiting for months, and the question is whether their shipyard will benefit from the contract for building a second ferry for CN Marine. I would like to ask the Minister whether he can give the House the assurance he is going to do everything he can to ensure these people receive justice.

[English]

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I hope there is no question that I will do everything possible to ensure these workers receive what he calls justice. I personally have met with representatives of the companies, unions, and provincial authorities concerning this matter. Hopefully we are all going to be able to

Oral Questions

come up with a solution so as to ensure the continued viability of shipyards in Canada, in particular the Davie shipyard. That is our objective.

[Translation]

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF MINISTER'S ANSWER

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, I am delighted the Minister is so forthcoming. I would therefore ask him to clarify his answer and explain whether giving them justice means that they will have a shipbuilding contract or whether it simply means they will be taken for a ride.

[English]

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the contract he refers to is, of course, one way of trying to relieve the situation in that shipyard. However, I would emphasize once again that this Government has managed to keep our shipyards working to date by procuring virtually 90 per cent of the ships constructed in Canadian shipyards. Surely that is a tremendous contribution on the part of the people and Government of Canada to ensure continued jobs for those workers.

Mr. Garneau: You did not answer the question, though.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

PLIGHT OF FARMERS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. The centre-piece in the Budget for farmers is the commodity-based loan program. The Minister knows there are about 60,000 Canadian farmers in financial difficulty. The Government loan lottery will help about 6,000 of those farmers. What does the Minister propose in the way of help for the other 55,000 farmers who are in financial difficulty?

Mr. Fulton: Higher taxes.

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Hon. Member's continuing concern for the financial plight of farmers. However, I think he has to recognize that this Government, to this point in time, has taken over 195 initiatives which have provided over \$4 billion for farmers. That is a pretty significant contribution. This Budget, as I indicated earlier, takes additional measures which provide over \$400 million. Indeed, there are other components which will, for the first time, recognize the reality of the situation.

DEBT REVIEW LEGISLATION

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the Minister is abandoning those farmers.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!