

*Oral Questions**[English]*

CARRIER'S COMMITMENTS

Mr. Tom McMillan (Hillsborough): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Labour. Given that EPA services have been disrupted because of the current labour-management dispute, has the Minister consulted his colleague, the Minister of Transport, to ensure that EPA is not using this labour dispute as an excuse to circumvent its firm commitments to the Atlantic Provinces as the regional carrier under federal charter?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour): Indeed, Madam Speaker, I have had discussions with my colleague the Minister of Transport about the EPA dispute, and I am satisfied that justice is being served in the current proceedings.

● (1140)

[English]

PROVISION OF SERVICE TO ATLANTIC REGION

Mr. Tom McMillan (Hillsborough): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. Is it the position of the Government that it will not intervene in the EPA dispute, even if that dispute leads to permanent reductions in service throughout the Atlantic region, in contravention of the federal charter?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, I think that the Hon. Member is jumping to a false conclusion. Through the Department of Labour, the Government did what it had to do in this case and, along with its mediation or conciliation services, it made available all facilities at its disposal with a view to reaching a settlement. When both sides claim that they have been wronged under the Canada Labour Code, they may appeal to the Canada Labour Relations Board, and that is exactly what they did. I would urge the Hon. Member to give free rein to the Canada Labour Relations Board which was established pursuant to an Act of Parliament adopted by all Hon. Members of the House.

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[English]

FISHERIES

EFFECT OF NORTHERN COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. I am sure he is aware that the Berger inquiry in 1978 evaluated years of biological and physical information, and concluded that there should be no industrial development on the North Slope of the Yukon. That was supported at that time by the Cabinet and the National Energy Board, including an Order in Council for the withdrawal of certain lands in the northern Yukon.

The Minister's Department is on record as vehemently opposing developments at King and Stokes Points because of seal-pupping grounds, and of both fresh and salt water spawning grounds for fish. First, does the Minister support his Department in opposing development of those two sites? Second, will he inform the Members of this House, and Canadians generally, whether he and his Cabinet colleagues believe that the recommendations of Mr. Justice Thomas Berger were false or wrong when they were made in 1978?

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Madam Speaker, on the question of fish habitat generally on the Pacific Coast, I have now benefited from the most recent study of Dr. Pearce. On the question of fish habitat and how to offset the conservation of the renewable resource compared to other economic development on the Pacific Coast, I am happy to report to the Hon. Member that the Department in the very near future will be publishing a comprehensive policy concerning fish habitat which I hope will have the support of the Hon. Member.

DEPARTMENTAL CONCERN

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Madam Speaker, obviously this is why the country is in trouble. I am talking about the Beaufort Sea. The Yukon borders on the Beaufort, not on the Pacific. My question is with regard to the opposition of his departmental officials to the development by Gulf of Stokes Point and by Kiewit and Sons of King Point, supported by Dome, Esso and others. On Monday of next week a project review group is going to make a decision on need regarding one of those two sites. Will the Minister make a commitment that he will raise this matter with his Cabinet colleagues, educate them on the fact that his Department at least is opposed to these two sites, and assure all Canadians that, if one of those sites is to be developed, there will be an Order in Council and we will not see the kind of frivolous land use permit that is being proposed by his colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member should recognize that the report to which I have alluded concerns specifically the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and the Pacific Coast. When dealing with fish habitat it is the duty of the Department to come up with a comprehensive policy so that all developers in Canada know what are the rules of the game. It is my policy that, every time we have a major economic development, one of the prerequisites is that public hearings be held so that all sides have the chance to express their views.

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IMMIGRATION

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS—ROLE OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Hon. Bud Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Employment and Immigra-