

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that the question is acceptable in those terms.

[English]

HARBOURS

COME-BY-CHANCE—PROVISION OF DOCKING FACILITIES FOR OIL REFINERY OPERATIONS

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Can the minister say whether a decision has been made on the application from the Newfoundland government for a substantial loan to provide docking facilities at Come-By-Chance?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Carter: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister say when a decision will be made on that application?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Shortly, Mr. Speaker.

POLLUTION

DETERGENTS—LEGISLATION TO LIMIT USE OF PHOSPHATES

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has any decision yet been made concerning legislation to limit the use of phosphates in detergents in Canada?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the manner in which we will legislate to achieve this end which I have announced has not yet been determined, whether it will be a separate bill or an amendment to the Canada water bill, but we hope to have a decision on this question very shortly.

Mr. Aiken: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister make an announcement concerning this matter so that the committee on resources will not be involved in an exercise in futility, if an amendment is not to be made to the Canada Water Act?

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

CONVENING OF COMMITTEE—SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I would address my question to the President

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of the Privy Council in his capacity as Government House Leader. Would the minister make arrangements to convene the Committee on Procedure and Organization just as soon as possible? With your permission, Mr. Speaker, it is necessary to explain the matter briefly to the minister because the estimates are before most of the committees for discussion and some uniformity is required as to the procedure. Attempts have been made in some committees, and I speak from personal knowledge, to prevent opposition members making any statements whatsoever in the discussion of estimates.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I should like to point out to the hon. member that the Procedure and Organization Committee held its organizational meeting yesterday and apparently discussed its plans for the balance of the session. I would remind the hon. member that I suggested yesterday to the House that it should make a general reference of the question of procedures to the committee so that it could carry on with this study but that his colleagues refused.

OIL

STRAIT OF GEORGIA—ISSUANCE OF DRILLING PERMITS

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): My question is addressed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Mr. Speaker, and I hope we can get a definitive answer to a question raised this morning in the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry. Have permits for oil drilling in Georgia Strait been issued by the federal government or, to his knowledge, has the government of the province of British Columbia taken any action in this connection?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, they certainly have not been issued by the federal government or my department, which would be responsible. To the best of my knowledge there have been no provincial permits issued, although I could not speak authoritatively on this subject.

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NIAMEY CONFERENCE—FOUNDING OF FRENCH-SPEAKING CULTURAL AGENCY

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.