

Mr. Woolliams: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The government itself moved some 33 amendments to the previous bill, some of which the committee did not approve. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice did not answer my question. I am asking him if he will bring in a bill dealing with dangerous offenders and statutory remission. This matter affects violent crime, even murder on the streets of the urban centres of our country. Will he bring such a bill in separately, so that it can be dealt with expeditiously? Will he answer that question, instead of waffling as he has done this morning?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member and his colleagues had not opposed the bill in the last session, we would now have among the laws of this country measures relating to statutory remission, dangerous offenders and other matters which would assure the Canadian public of a degree of protection which they do not have right now.

To reply to the hon. member's question, I hope to introduce legislation dealing with statutory remission, that is, prohibiting statutory remission, dealing with dangerous offenders, and increasing the ability of the police to protect society against maniacs using guns.

Mr. Woolliams: A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Amendments which the present government passed in 1970 have created some of our present problems. They changed the Bail Act. Since members on my side of the House made concrete, positive suggestions in committee, does the minister not think he ought to accept them if we are to pass legislation which is workable and acceptable to the people of Canada?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I agree that many of those suggestions were valuable, and I and the Solicitor General accepted many of them on behalf of the government. For that reason I feel that the whole subject has been thoroughly canvassed in a committee of this House and I anticipate that such legislation can be dealt with expeditiously.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

SUGGESTION OF MRS. MENZIES THAT FOOD POLICY BE ADOPTED—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. It has been reported that June Menzies, vice chairman of the Anti-Inflation Board, in a speech in Winnipeg yesterday said that Canada "must lose no time in working out a deliberate and co-ordinated national food policy". I ask the minister, in view of his responsibility for the operation of the Anti-Inflation Board, will the cabinet be responding to this further considered view that we do not have a national food policy and that one is needed, and proceed now to take decisions on it and announce such a policy? I also ask this question because Mrs. Menzies, as an appointee of the present cabinet presumably would have the confidence of the entire cabinet, including the Minister of Agriculture, the

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Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and of the Minister of Finance himself.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, there has been continuing discussion of the question of a national food policy in an attempt to arrive at a position which would take into account the interests of consumers of Canada and, at the same time, assure the viability of agriculture in this country. Obviously, this is a matter of fundamental importance, which has been given a great deal of time and attention.

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TRANSPORT

SUGGESTED CHANGE IN LICENSING PROVISIONS TO PROHIBIT USE OF OLD SHIPS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, may I direct my question to the Prime Minister? My question related to the impending lay-off of 1,000 workers at the Collingwood Shipyards. According to the director of the Steelworkers Union, which represents those employees, one reason for the shipyard's being on the verge of wholesale lay-offs is that the federal government allows ships sold for scrap in the United States to be licensed for use in Canadian waters. He said that 25-year-old ships which cannot be licensed in the United States can be purchased and used on the Great Lakes. I ask the Prime Minister if the government is considering changing the legislation, or the regulations, in order to prohibit the use of old ships in that way in Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the allegations, but if the hon. member will be patient, I will refer the matter to the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

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INDUSTRY

COLLINGWOOD SHIPYARDS—POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING NEW SHIPS REQUIRED FOR PATROLLING 200 MILE FISHING ZONE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Prime Minister discuss with the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and the Minister of the Environment what new ship capacity will be required to meet our needs if we are to enforce the 200 mile limit for fishing purposes? Such enforcement should require more ships which, possibly, could be built at the Collingwood Shipyards.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of the question.