

Oral Questions

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

NUMBER OF JOB INQUIRIES TO BE MADE TO AVOID
CUTTING OFF OF BENEFITS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether the large number of people who are now being cut off unemployment insurance because they have not satisfied the officials of the commission that they have been active enough in looking for work have been given any information, any details, as to the number of job inquiries they are to make per week or per month so their unemployment insurance benefits will not be cut off?

• (1450)

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, that assistance and advice is contained in the interviews and information conveyed to the claimants being disentitled for that reason. They vary according to the community and according to the availability of jobs in particular categories, but in a simple precise way the answer is yes, they are told that.

Mr. Orlikow: Could claimants be given the same kind of directive as must have been given to the officials of the Unemployment Insurance Commission who are enforcing this new policy so they will have some idea of what is expected from them before they are cut off?

Mr. Andras: I think I just answered that, Mr. Speaker, but I shall examine the question again when *Hansard* is printed.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Before recognizing the hon. member for Lotbinière who seems to have one or more supplementaries, I will recognize the hon. member for St. John's East.

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[English]

TRANSPORT

PENDING STRIKE OF WEST COAST MARINE PILOTS—
POSSIBLE CHANGE IN TERMS OF REFERENCE OF
PILOTAGE AUTHORITY TO MEET DEMANDS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Has the minister met with representatives of the west coast pilots in view of the threat of a pending strike of British Columbia pilots with its national implications, and is he prepared to discuss with them changes in the terms of reference or guidelines for the west coast pilotage authority so that it will be able to meet the demands of the B.C. pilots?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I received this morning a request from the pilots' association asking me to meet them. My hon. colleague was kind enough to give me notice of his question. I can only review the whole case to ensure whether my intervention at this time really "unbalances" the bargaining power of the interested parties. If not, I will happily

[Mr. Speaker.]

receive not only the pilots but also the British Columbia Pilotage Authority.

"IRISH STARDUST" INCIDENT AT ALERT BAY

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Can he tell us whether the *Irish Stardust* was under the control of a Canadian pilot at the time of the accident near Alert Bay at the end of January? If so, why did the captain allow him to proceed to Victoria, given the condition of the hull?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I cannot remember whether the vessel was in the area where the services of a Canadian pilot are required. I am going to check and advise the hon. member tomorrow morning or tomorrow afternoon, if he agrees.

As for the ship, it could hardly be left where it stood. It had to be taken somewhere and that was to be Victoria. I believe damages were reduced to a minimum and I doubt that anyone can complain about the behaviour of the department in that instance.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Will the minister be in a position to report soon on the accident which occurred about two months ago?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I believe I have received just about all the details. We know exactly how much cleaning operations will cost. It is simply a matter of knowing what the company in question and what the government will pay and that I can tell the hon. member when I answer his question about the pilot.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt that the question of the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich is really supplementary to his previous question. Still, in a way, it could be related to the first question.

[English]

Before going to the next member, I believe the hon. member for Calgary Centre has a supplementary. I hope it will be a supplementary to the one or the other of the questions just asked.

PENDING STRIKE OF WEST COAST MARINE PILOTS—
INVESTIGATION OF STATUS OF PILOTS' ASSOCIATION
BY COMBINES BRANCH

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and is supplementary to the question asked by the hon. member for St. John's East. In view of the indication by the Minister of Transport and I believe by the Minister of Labour a short time ago that the B.C. Pilots Association is in fact a corporation and therefore not subject to federal labour regulations and for this reason the minister felt he could not intervene in the discussions, and in view of the fact this is apparently a monopolistic situation, can the minister indicate whether officials of his department