

Report Tabled on Fish Marketing

been taken to ascertain the facts and make recommendations. It is to be hoped that some action will be forthcoming now.

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): It is well known that for a number of years the price of fresh water fish caught in western Canada and the Northwest Territories has been subject to wide variations.

The findings of the royal commission indicate that this situation is due in a large measure to the uncertainty of the export market from one year to the next, or even from week to week during the season. The only major recommendation we find in the report is that a government marketing board be set up to purchase all this fresh water fish. However, this in itself would not appear to be a complete solution; it would not necessarily present the variations which are apparent in export prices.

It is well known, however, that in the past the bargaining position of individual fishermen in the industry has been very weak. If the setting up of a purchasing board could strengthen the marketing position of fresh water fishermen we would certainly give some support to such a move. At the same time we should realize that purchasing boards established in Canada are not always effective in finding solutions to problems concerning the export market.

I think the fishermen should be consulted. They should be asked whether they want to market their fish in this way and whether they are willing to submit to the regulations which accompany such a scheme, for instance quotas and market sharing by means of quotas. We should certainly support them in an effort to find ways and means of strengthening their position.

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN TWELFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. H. E. Gray (Essex West) moved that the twelfth report of the standing committee on finance, trade and economic affairs, presented to the house on Friday, October 14, be concurred in.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: On division.

[English]

Motion agreed to, on division.

[Mr. Douglas.]

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

INCOMES OF CANADIAN FAMILIES

Question No. 1,619—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. What were the average salaries and wages (excluding military pay) for 1964 earned by Canada's labour force?

2. What was the average income for 1964 of Canadian Indian families excluding general assistance and family allowances?

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Departments of Trade and Commerce and Indian Affairs and Northern Development as follows: 1. The average weekly wages and salaries in 1964 (industrial composite) was \$86.68. No information is available regarding the number of weeks employed in 1964.

2. It is not possible to give the average income of Canadian Indian families for 1964, but according to figures obtained from a housing survey in March 1965 estimated annual incomes of Indian families residing in Indian communities, excluding general assistance and family allowances, were in the following ranges: \$2,000 or less, 22,640 families; \$2,001 to \$3,000, 4,929 families; \$3,001 or over, 3,769 families.

The figures given in response to parts 1 and 2 of the question come from different sources and should not necessarily be construed to be comparable. Many Canadian Indians obtain non-cash income such as food from domestic fishing, meat from their hunting activities and housing provided under programs financed in whole or part from public funds. This is not reflected in the figures in part 2. In the 1964-65 fiscal year, welfare assistance amounting to more than \$5,000,000 and housing assistance in excess of \$4,500,000 was provided to Indian families through the Indian affairs branch. The amounts of additional payments for such benefits as family allowances, disability and old age assistance are not compiled or maintained separately for Indian families.

FORT SMITH AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION

Question No. 1,949—**Mr. Orange:**

1. For what reasons was construction of the terminal building at the Fort Smith airport not proceeded with this year?

2. Will construction be carried out next year and, if so (a) what will be the cost (b) how long will it take to complete?