

Oral Questions

they are to take requesting that Canada harvest as much marine resources as it is capable of harvesting will receive the support of the political and parliamentary system of Canada.

● (1540)

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, we have delegations in various parts of the world speaking for the government and expressing its policies all the time. If the opposition wants to support the government in this, I think we would welcome it very much, and perhaps they could use their opposition day tomorrow to do this.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running short of time. The hon. member has put two questions. If there is time, I will return to him in a short while. The Chair would like to recognize the hon. member for Scarborough West.

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ENERGY**PROPOSED SUPERTANKER PORT IN ISLE VERTE REGION OF QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR ECOLOGICAL STUDIES**

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. In view of the minister's expressed justifiable concern over dangers to the Canadian environment in the building of a supertanker port at Eastport, Maine, and in view of the recent statement by the Quebec minister of natural resources that environmental studies with regard to the building of a superport at Isle Verte, Quebec have not begun, could the minister express to the House the concern of his ministry by indicating that the department has begun ecological studies surrounding the building of the superport in Isle Verte, Quebec?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we have already completed an environmental impact assessment on the Lorneville project in New Brunswick, and a joint investigation regarding the Canso project is under way. We are happy to join with the provinces in these kinds of appraisals at any time.

PROPOSED SUPERTANKER PORT IN ISLE VERTE REGION—INQUIRY RESPECTING ALLEGED APPROVAL GIVEN QUEBEC BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I address it to the right hon. Prime Minister?

[*Translation*]

Could the Prime Minister inform the House of the answer to the question I put to the Acting Prime Minister last week, when I asked him what department or government branch had approved Quebec's participation in the supertanker port project at Gros Cacouna-Isle Verte, since the Quebec department of natural resources had admitted earlier this year that such approval had been received from the federal government?

[Mr. Lundrigan.]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I shall be pleased to inquire about the answer to this question, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the hon. member put it while I was at the federal-provincial conference last week. I apologize for not having been informed of this question and I shall see to it that it is answered as soon as possible.

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FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS**LACK OF SUCCESS OF RECENT CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS—CESSION TO PROVINCES OF CERTAIN TAX FIELDS**

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the qualified success of the recent federal-provincial conference as to the fair sharing of the taxation fields, and to put an end to the provincial premiers' periodic "marches" on Ottawa, could he advise the House whether he is seriously considering the possibility of declaring World War II officially terminated, thereby automatically surrendering to the provinces the taxation fields granted to the federal government in 1942, pursuant to section 23(1) of Bill C-16, which was given Royal Assent May 13, 1942.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, without going into details, I should like to tell the hon. member that, if he carefully examines the documentation submitted to the conference as well as the positions taken respectively by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) and the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), he will realize that the government's position was in fact to surrender to the provinces the taxation means which they need to finance the two programs under discussion, namely health services and post-secondary education.

Therefore, should the hon. member examine the documentation, he will see that this is our position, and I am delighted that he should support the government on this issue.

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[*English*]

AIR TRANSPORT**DISCONTINUANCE OF CUSTOMS PRECLEARANCE—SUGGESTION MORE CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN PASSENGERS THAN AIRLINES**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport whether or not the government is about to put an end to the system now in effect in respect of air passengers out of Toronto and Montreal not being able to secure their customs clearances before departure.

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is part of the negotiations which are taking place now with the United States. As soon as the negotiations are completed, I will be happy to inform the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, does the minister consider that Canadians should be used as pawns in an