

*Oral Questions***NATIONAL REVENUE**

## DEPARTMENT'S SEIZURE OF OLD CROW CO-OP'S BANK ACCOUNT

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. It concerns an emergency situation which his Department has brought about the native village of Old Crow. The co-operative store there is owned by and operated by native people. It serves the people of that community as the only commercial outlet. His Department has now seized the entire bank account of that store, preventing the native people from getting much needed gasoline, flown in at \$6.50 per gallon, so that they can go trapping on their traditional trapping lines. When did the Minister commence a policy of shutting down native industry in such a fashion in this country?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I wish the Hon. Member would give me a chance to look at the facts. I may remind him that often, even very severe measures are justified by the circumstances.

However, if the Hon. Member will allow me to look into the particular facts relating to this matter, I would then be able to judge the situation in the light of those facts.

• (1450)

[English]

## REQUEST THAT MINISTER CONSULT COLLEAGUE

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted if the Minister would look into it. I would have directed this question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but he is not present today, having priorities elsewhere. When he does look into it, will he consult with his colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, about this very urgent situation of the closure of the outlet which provides the necessities of life, the only one in Old Crow, by his Department, so that these people can go trapping? Perhaps the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development might be persuaded that the \$10,000 he received from native groups would be better spent in keeping outlets such as this open.

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Hon. Member that whenever there has been a situation involving my Department and native groups in this country, I have always consulted, and indeed shall continue to consult, with my colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

[English]

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

## PACIFIC PETREL INQUIRY REPORT

**Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. He has had the board of inquiry report on the *Pacific Petrel* for some four months. I finally got my copy the other day. The board of officers reported that there is financial chaos in the Pacific region and that the Minister would do well to look at the other regions to see if they are any better off. They tracked down \$1,092,000 of taxpayer's money spent on this project, all of which seems to have been misappropriated. What has the Minister done about it in these past four months?

**Hon. J.-J. Blais (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is quite right in terms of the analysis that was done in the circumstances. There was a very thorough review. Indeed, as a result of the fact that the navy cadet budget on the West Coast was lacking sufficient control, there was a review of all the various budgets of like kinds throughout the whole system. The evaluation was carried forward. It was ascertained that there were no other instances except the specific case of the *Pacific Petrel*.

## OFFICERS' RESPONSIBILITY

**Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the same Minister. The board of officers supplied the names of five officers of flag rank and three of general rank whom they found were particularly responsible because they had direct executive authority and all knew in greater or lesser detail of the scope of this project. Some or all of these eight officers must be in direct contravention of Section 24(4) of the Financial Administration Act. What does the Minister intend to do about that?

**Hon. J.-J. Blais (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman knows, a finding having been completed through a board of inquiry, the board of inquiry submits to commanding officers individuals who are identified within the board of inquiry. The board of inquiry so being staffed by the commanding officers, they make a determination of what measures ought to be taken, disciplinary or administrative, relating to any individuals so identified. The Hon. Member knows that in one instance there was a court martial. In others, internal administrative measures were taken.

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**WESTERN GRAIN STABILIZATION ACT**

## SIZE OF ANNOUNCED PAY-OUT

**Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance, and deals with his exchange with the Leader of the New Democratic Party. It is