

question which should really be directed to the Solicitor General—

**An hon. Member:** Passing the buck.

**Mr. Basford:** I am amazed at the right hon. member for Prince Albert talking about freedom—here is the right hon. gentleman who talks about freedom of the press and—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. There remains about 15 minutes of the question period. I think it might be better if we could stick to questions and answers.

**Mr. Clark:** Who advertised in *Le Jour*?

SUGGESTION SOLICITOR GENERAL SHOULD BE CONSULTED BEFORE WARRANTS ISSUED TO SEARCH NEWSPAPER OFFICES

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question and I should like to address it to the Solicitor General. I am perfectly prepared to get the information that I asked for from the Minister of Justice at some later date, if and when he takes the trouble to find out the facts. My question is, in a matter so important as the freedom of the press and a warrant to search through the files of the press, even though there is no legal duty to consult, would the minister not think it wise to inform the Royal Canadian Mounted Police before taking the action which might be the highest infringement of that basic right of Canadians, the right of a free press, to be consulted about it? Does he not take that to be an advisable step?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, there is also an important question to be considered and that is, whether we want the elected person, the political person, to be involved in the operational aspects of criminal justice.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

AID TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN ITALY—GRANTING OF LICENCES TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS RAISING FUNDS

**Mr. F. A. Philbrook (Halton):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question which I would put to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and/or the Minister of National Revenue. In light of the earthquake tragedies in northern Italy is it possible to expedite the granting of charitable tax deduction licences to facilitate the fund raising by Canadian Italian groups and others for this purpose?

[Translation]

**Miss Monique Bégin (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we have not received any direct call for governmental aid from the Italian Red Cross. Several Canadian groups, however, have taken the initiative in raising funds. I might point out that those funds can be forwarded to destination through officially recognized charitable organizations under the Income Tax Act, and donors will then get official

## Oral Questions

receipts for income tax purposes. Among those organizations are the Canadian Red Cross, OXFAM, CARE and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, to name just a few.

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[English]

## TRANSPORT

BORDEN-CAPE TORMENTINE FERRY SERVICE—INCREASED FARES AND REDUCED SERVICE—GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport which concerns last week's announcement that only four ships will operate on the Borden-Cape Tormentine ferry service this summer, an announcement which follows upon another one of vastly increased fares on that service. Will the minister cause a re-examination to be made of this unwelcome combination of increased costs and diminished service, and will he find a means of forestalling this latest contribution to the weakening of the economy of the maritime provinces and the widening of regional disparity?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member knows that in response to the local desire, the ferry has been or is being transferred from one service to the other. He refers to the increase in fares but as I indicated to the House before, and I am glad to do so again, action has been taken by the government to moderate increases in the deficits incurred by ferry services but not eliminate them. In fact, there will be more of the taxpayers' money going to support these services than in past years and by a significant amount. In view of the need for some restraint, I hope the hon. member will recognize that there has been no price increase for some years but there is a need for increased service.

**Mr. Macquarrie:** A supplementary question in reference to the local wishes. May I ask the minister if the government of Prince Edward Island requested withdrawal of this boat from the Borden-Tormentine service?

**Mr. Lang:** If the hon. member is referring to transfer, there was some general support for this. I will check to see specifically whether the Minister of Transport in that area requested it.

EFFECT OF INCREASED FERRY CHARGES ON ECONOMY OF NEWFOUNDLAND—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

**Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the Gulf ferry fares to Newfoundland have increased up to 100 per cent and in view of the fact that the public service utilities commission asked the Canadian Transport Commission or CNR to roll back the increase in bus fares, in view of the fact this will deter and stultify the only industry left in Newfoundland, will the minister investigate this vast increase to alleviate the problem of the future of Newfoundland on an economic base?