

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

received we are free to make similar proposals to other countries at future meetings of ICNAF.

## REQUEST FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MARKET FOR SHARK MEAT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question also to the Minister of Fisheries. Last year a fleet of 13 large deep sea shark fishing longliners from Norway made their headquarters at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, while they carried out operations on the offshore fishing banks of Nova Scotia, and the first ships of this year's fleet have already arrived in port.

In view of the fact that Canadian longliners operating in the halibut and sword-fishing industry presently catch a large number of sharks for which there is no market in Canada, will the Minister of Fisheries inform the House whether any effort has been made by his departmental officials to ascertain the extent of the market for shark meat in Canada and foreign markets?

**Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries):** Mr. Speaker, I understand that preliminary discussions have already taken place between the Government of Nova Scotia and the Department of Fisheries with regard to carrying on further experiments in order to determine the quantity and availability of sharks in our waters.

**Mr. Crouse:** A supplementary question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that Mr. Roy Matthews, Chairman of the British White Fish Authority, stated recently in Halifax that a crisis is facing the world's deep sea fishing industry, with fish stocks becoming depleted, will the Minister of Trade and Commerce endeavour, through Canada's trade commissioners abroad, to establish new markets for shark meat which is landed in Canada in order to provide new sources of revenue for our deep sea Canadian fishermen?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to take the hon. Member's suggestions into consideration and give them as much attention as they deserve.

[Mr. Robichaud.]

## SOCIAL INSURANCE

## REPORTED INTENTION TO CHANGE FORM OF CARD

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, on May 4 a question was asked of the Secretary of State as to whether quotations had been called for a new form of social security card which would remove the coat of arms of Canada from the card and substitute the new flag. Could the Minister make a reply in this connection?

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, no decision has been taken with respect to a change in the present card. If any such decision is taken it will be communicated to the House.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Is my information correct that quotations regarding this matter have been asked for? My information is that companies are being asked to give their estimates for new social security cards, removed therefrom the coat of arms and the presence of certain things which are not acceptable to the Government. Is it true that quotations have been asked from one or more printing firms which have been communicated with, to ascertain what their tenders would be?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, it may be that discussions have been held with firms with respect to various possibilities, but I can assure my right hon. friend that no decision has been taken. When one is taken it will be announced in the House.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** It is not a question of a decision. I asked a very direct question. Did the Minister's Department or the Department of the Secretary of State ask for tenders regarding a new social security form with the coat of arms removed therefrom because the coat of arms was not acceptable to all members of the Government?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, may I say at once that the coat of arms is acceptable to all members of the Government, as I hope it is to all members of the House.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I have heard the Prime Minister make statements like that before and then he has had to forget that he answered in that way. I ask the Minister this. Has there been any request made of various printing firms to produce this new social security form, registra-