RENEWED FEDERALISM—JURISDICTION OVER OFFSHORE RESOURCES

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, I wonder if it is part of the renewed federalism of which the Prime Minister has spoken to deny the jurisdiction over offshore resources to the provinces.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): That would not be renewed federalism, Madam Speaker; that would be a continuation of the kind of federalism practised by the right hon. Leader of the Opposition. I remind him that our government had signed with the maritime provinces an agreement as to the offshore. He broke that agreement in order to give them unilaterally to the provinces.

In the case of the lotteries, we had also reached an agreement with the provinces. He broke that agreement in order to give them unilaterally to the provinces.

Mr. Clark: Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister has indicated that renewed federalism in at least these two instances involves the quickest possible return to the status quo.

Given the interest in Quebec and elsewhere in knowing what the contents of this renewed federalism of which the Prime Minister has spoken are, and since he has now indicated two areas in which he intends to move away from progress that was made, will he table in this House, before May 20, an indication of the contents of the renewed federalism that he and his government have in mind?

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, it seems to me that my previous answer made it clear that we had reached agreement with the provinces on these two matters. What the government of the right hon. Leader of the Opposition did was to cave in and to give to the provinces what had been negotiated away by them on an equal basis with the federal government. Now I am telling him that if his view of renewed federalism is to undo all the agreements which are fair for both the federal government and provincial governments, and replace them by agreements which will be fair only for the provinces, that is not our view of renewed federalism.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

WINNERS OF COMPETITION FOR DESIGN OF PATROL FRIGATE

Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. I wonder if the minister could announce the two winners of the competition for the design of the Canadian patrol frigate, thus enabling the navy to proceed to the contract definition phase and enabling the three consortia which did not win the competition to cut their losses and not incur further useless expenses.

Oral Questions

[Translation]

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): Madam Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that nothing is unduly delaying the normal progress of the frigate file. I have not yet received any specific suggestion concerning companies having the required qualifications to undertake the design of the new frigates. The only statement I have made so far is that the new frigates would be built in Canada with a Canadian design.

[English]

Mr. McKinnon: Madam Speaker, the minister is not quite as specific as he was last Friday about where they would be built, when he illustrated political patronage was his prime factor in awarding the contracts.

Last November, as minister of national defence I sent a memo to the chief of the defence staff and the deputy minister ordering a study to be started on a new ship replacement program to follow on after the six frigate program was finished. An interim report was to be given to the chief of the defence staff by March 15 and to the minister by the end of June. Can the minister tell the House what progress, if any, has been made on this study, and if he has been briefed on it by the chief of the defence staff?

[Translation]

Mr. Lamontagne: Madam Speaker, following my previous answer, the development of the frigate program follows its normal course and once the problem of the new fighters was settled I asked the department to do its utmost to suggest all possible solutions on the frigates.

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NATIONAL UNITY

QUEBEC REFERENDUM—INQUIRY WHETHER MINISTER OF JUSTICE WILL BAN PUBLICITY IN QUEBEC

Mr. Jean-Guy Dubois (Lotbinière): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Following the scathing criticism made this morning by PQ minister Pierre-Marc Johnson about the publicity of the federal government, does the Minister of Justice intend to put a stop to the information activities of the Canadian government in Quebec?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development): Madam Speaker, I do not intend to stop the publicity. I merely want to thank Mr. Johnson for having acknowledged the suitability and effectiveness of the Canadian government information program. I wish to take this opportunity to remind Mr. Johnson of a statement made on March 31, 1980, before the National Assembly by Premier Lévesque, and I quote:

It is normal for governments, if they have some sense of reality, to try, as corporations do, to obtain some information on the occasion of publicity-