[English]

DIVORCE

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF AMENDMENTS TO ACT
RESPECTING GROUNDS

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): I have a question for the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. In view of the resolution recently passed by the Canadian Bar Association recommending that marriage breakdown be the only ground for divorce and that one year of separation be conclusive evidence of such breakdown, and in view of increasing public concern about delay and costs in this field, is the minister considering the introduction of amendments to the divorce law along this line?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): We have this matter under consideration, but it is also being considered by the Law Reform Commission and I am inclined to await the report of that commission on the subject matter, at least if it is not too long delayed.

GRAIN

WHEAT—POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION SETTING FLOOR PRICE RELATED TO FARMERS' COST OF PRODUCTION

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. Since the minister has stated that at least a portion of his domestic wheat policy is to be introduced by way of legislation, may I ask whether he intends to forgo the floor price of \$3.25 which has been announced and bring forward legislation making provision for a floor price related to the cost of production to western farmers?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think the range of \$3.25 to \$5 does reflect the cost of production. What I did say to the House was that I would be considering this question and discussing with the House leader in due course the question of appropriate legislation, particularly to deal with the treasury payment which is involved as a consumer subsidy to keep the price of bread from going higher.

• (1450)

SHIPPING

REQUEST THAT SPANISH-CREWED SHIPS, "RO RO NEWFOUNDLAND" AND "RO RO NEW BRUNSWICK" NOT BE GRANTED VALIDATING LICENCES AND CERTIFICATES

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport related to matters arising between the Seafarers' International Union and the government. Has the minister received a telegram from the SIU requesting that the Spanish-crewed ships, Ro Ro Newfoundland and Ro Ro New Brunswick, not be granted the validating licences and certificates they need and, if so, can the minister

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indicate to the House the nature of his reply? In other words, has he accepted the request or will he deny it?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, I have been in contact with the premiers of the Atlantic provinces concerning those ships, the Darling report and the Commonwealth agreement. I am going to meet with them next Monday. This is one of the subjects I should like to raise with them before giving a final answer to the SIU.

GRAIN

OPEN QUOTAS AND PLUGGED ELEVATORS—INQUIRY AS TO COMPLAINTS

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board and arises from the fact that some farmers cannot deliver grain to plugged elevators. Is the minister receiving any complaints because of the almost wide open quota situation early in the crop year, while elevators are already plugged at some delivery points?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, most farmers faced with congested elevators are quite aware of the fact that this is a result of the railway strike. I do not, therefore, receive complaints from them. They are also aware of the fact that, while quotas are open, the record movement of grain throughout the rest of the year should soon relieve the congestion.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Will the minister instruct the Wheat Board to assist farmers who have not been able to make deliveries, thus protecting the equal quota principle of the Wheat Board for all farmers?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the Wheat Board will, of course, be attempting to place grain cars particularly early and in large quantities in those places where there is congestion. In the meantime, the cash advance program is available to allow farmers to obtain some cash in advance of delivery. As the House knows, we intend to increase the limit available under the cash advance plan.

AIR CANADA

DESTRUCTION OF PLANE BY EXPLOSION AT TORONTO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT—INQUIRY AS TO REPORT—USE OF JP4 FUEL

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. On June 21 an explosion destroyed an Air Canada plane on the runway at Toronto International Airport. The minister ordered an investigation and promised to table the report in the House. Can he tell me now whether he has that report and, if not, what is the reason for the delay?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the reason is that the report is not completed and is not on my desk.