

thing of the past, a statement which further confuses Canadian television consumers, producers and distributors alike.

I therefore move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis):

That the Minister of Communications enlighten Canadians regarding the future of television reception in Canada by tabling his long awaited White Paper on Communications so that Canadians can see what direction the Government plans to take, and so that people may have some input into future regulations which will determine what Canadians will be permitted to watch on their TV sets.

**Madam Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

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### FISHERIES

#### DEMAND FOR PUBLICATION OF KIRBY TASK FORCE REPORT

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the closure of fish plants in Newfoundland and elsewhere in eastern Canada, illustrated by the closure of plants at Trepassy and Fermeuse in St. John's West, in my district, and in view of the precarious economic situation of the east coast fishing industry upon which depends the sole economic occupation of rural Newfoundland, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker):

That the Government of Canada make public immediately the report of the Kirby Task Force on the east coast fishery and act immediately to ensure the continuation of a viable east coast inshore and offshore fishery which the Government maintains is within the sole constitutional jurisdiction of the Government of Canada.

**Madam Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

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### DISASTERS

#### "OCEAN RANGER" INQUIRY—BALKING BY AMERICAN CORPORATION

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Madam Speaker, in light of the fact that the Canadian inquiry into the tragic incident involving the *Ocean Ranger* cannot force ODECO, the American owners of the rig, to produce the essential witnesses and information needed for a full investigation, thereby risking future Canadian lives if the inquiry is unable to discover the cause of the accident and make appropriate recommendations, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Kootenay East-Revelstoke (Mr. Parker):

### Oral Questions

That this House condemn this American corporation for not providing full co-operation to a Canadian inquiry and, further, that the Government strengthen legislation regarding expectations of foreign companies before allowing them to operate within our boundaries.

**Madam Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

● (1415)

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

### PETRO-CANADA

#### PURCHASE OF BRITISH PETROLEUM COMPANY SERVICE STATIONS AND REFINERIES

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources I will put my question to the Minister of Finance. It deals with the proposed purchase of British Petroleum service stations and refineries. Given that Canada's No. 1 economic problem is a depression level unemployment rate, and given that last week the Minister of Finance stated that he could only find modest amounts of cash to fight this problem, how does the Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, justify spending \$350 million of public funds on a purchase which will not generate a single new job? In fact it will cost jobs, because previously BP and Fina were frequently competitors on the same corner and now there will be only one service station and one marketing department. Therefore there will be a net loss of jobs. How does the Minister of Finance justify the expenditure at this point in time?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, as was announced by Petro-Canada, this purchase will be financed without asking for one cent from the Public Treasury or one cent from the taxpayers of Canada.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Lalonde:** It has been taken by Petro-Canada as a business decision that will be totally financed on the market per se, and it will be a self-financing operation. It has been considered by the board of directors of Petro-Canada as a very good business deal. Knowing the support that Petro-Canada has received from Canadian consumers, I am convinced that this will also prove to be an excellent decision in all respects.

#### USE OF PURCHASE FUNDS

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Madam Speaker, as the ads say, "it is ours", and its debts are our debts, the same way as the Government's direct debts are our debts. The reality is that we, the people, are in debt an extra \$350 million