

*Ship Construction Program Announced*

work in the Arctic as well as for duty in coastal waters and in the open oceans; (2) two tidal current survey vessels, at a cost of from \$3.75 million to \$4 million each, one for each coast; third, a research vessel primarily to support the oceanography program of the institute of oceanography at the University of British Columbia, at a cost of \$1 million.

Phase two of the shipbuilding program comprises, first, two additional major survey vessels capable of hydrographic and oceanography work in the Arctic and deep waters, at a cost of from \$5 to \$6 million each; second, five minor survey vessels designed for work in Canada's inshore and inland waters, at a cost of from \$1.6 to \$2 million each.

[Translation]

**Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Temisca-tingue):** Mr. Speaker, I was very happy to hear the minister give us some details on that shipbuilding program involving research ships for hydrographic and oceanographic work. That statement by the minister tends to continue and to confirm the oceanographic development program instituted by the previous government.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, it would be well to recall to the house the various phases of the work carried out by the previous administration in these fields, and more particularly the setting up of the Bedford Oceanographic centre, near Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Conservative government also built H.M.C.S. *Hudson*, which was described as a floating laboratory. I am sure the minister will agree with me that this ship is recognized as one of the most modern in that particular field.

The oceanographic and hydrographic programs need to be pushed in Canada. The Conservative party initiated that action and this government is carrying on, but all the Canadians are the ones who will eventually benefit from it.

[Text]

**Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur):** Mr. Speaker, this is a necessary program and we are pleased with it.

[Translation]

**Mr. Guy Marcoux (Quebec-Montmorency):** Mr. Speaker, we welcome the statement just made by the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys (Mr. Benidickson). Personally, I regret one thing, though I do not know if my colleagues will agree with me. It is that our party did not have the opportunity to initiate a shipbuilding policy in the field of oceanography.

[Mr. Benidickson.]

At any rate, Mr. Speaker, I wish to point out to the house that in the province of Quebec, especially in the Quebec city area, there are many shipyards, and we hope that the department will give some tenderers of this area the opportunity to build some of its ships. In fact, our facilities in that field are very good and it must be noted also that unemployment is quite serious there. Consequently, I ask the government to take this suggestion into consideration, since we have excellent shipyards in the Quebec city area.

**Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, we shall not dally any more to say that we also approve that shipbuilding program as announced today by the government. When it comes to developing our country by peaceful means rather than war instruments, we agree and can only congratulate the government for the statement it has made today.

[Text]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****WEST INDIES—INQUIRY AS TO ADDITIONAL AID**

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs arising out of a statement ascribed yesterday to Prime Minister Barrow of Barbados regarding the question of additional aid and assistance to commonwealth countries in the West Indies. The right hon. gentleman recently stated there would be an increase in the assistance to be given under aid programs. Would he give consideration to expanding assistance to our friends and fellow members of the commonwealth in the area adjacent to North America?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** My answer to the leader of the opposition is in the affirmative. The government will give consideration—I may say the government is giving consideration—to this matter.

**UNITED NATIONS****SOUTHERN RHODESIA—RESOLUTION RESPECTING ARMS SHIPMENTS BY GREAT BRITAIN**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Perhaps I could take this opportunity to deal with a question asked me yesterday by the Leader of the Opposition regarding a resolution at the United Nations concerning the shipment of arms to Southern Rhodesia, about which the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam also inquired. The sponsors were 41 African and Asian members in