Inquiries of the Ministry

FISHERIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA-DAMAGE TO SALMON SPAWNING GROUNDS BY LOG RUN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and ask whether he has anything to report to the house about the court case, the writ of mandamus, with respect to the driving of logs on the Stellako river, which I understand was heard this morning before Mr. Justice Aikens in Vancouver.

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I understand the matter was heard just an hour or so ago and no report has reached me as yet, so there is nothing I can add to what I said last week.

Mr. Howard: As a supplementary question, would the minister be prepared to make public any scientific reports on the log driving in that river last year, whether they came from his department or the salmon commission?

Mr. Robichaud: I will certainly give consideration to this request, Mr. Speaker.

PUBLIC SERVICE

INQUIRY AS TO GROUP B SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would direct a question to the Prime Minister because he, in common with others, has received a series of complaints in the last few days from class B employees regarding the decision on the revision of their salaries, also asking that an interim addition be allowed at this time. Would the Prime Minister personally look into this matter and do something for these employees who have been waiting for action for a long, long time?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have had some communications on this matter, and those communications are now being given consideration.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I have a supplementary question, is made on this matter can a firm assurance Rupert?

be given that these group B employees will not lose out on an adjustment because of the changeover which is taking place?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, it is our intention to remove any possible injustices in these matters.

CANADA PENSION PLAN

CLASSIFICATION OF WEST COAST FISHERMEN AS SELF EMPLOYED

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue, asking him whether he will reconsider his recent decision which reclassifies practically all fishermen on the west coast as self employed persons for the purposes of the Canada Pension Plan?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, we looked into this matter very carefully before making the decision which does classify some of the fishermen as self employed persons. As the hon. member is aware, there is a pension appeal board to which the decisions of the department in this regard can be appealed.

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I should like to ask the minister whether he is going to follow the advice given by the postal workers over the week end.

Mr. Benson: No, Mr. Speaker.

GRAIN

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.-INCREASE IN ELEVATOR CAPACITY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question, which I am sure is predictable and which I am also sure has been anticipated by the Minister of Agriculture.

An hon. Member: You will get a predictable answer.

Mr. Howard: I hope I do not get the usual answer. In light of the announcement today by the Minister of Finance regarding grain sales to the Soviet union, will this transaction Mr. Speaker, which I should like to direct act as an impetus to the minister to give an either to the Prime Minister or to the Min- early and favourable decision regarding the ister of National Revenue. When a statement extension of grain elevator facilities at Prince

[Mr. McCleave.]