

*Oral Questions*

[English]

**Mr. Hogan:** Mr. Speaker, we are getting pretty darned tired of hearing that kind of answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich.

**An hon. Member:** He is going to go back to the Treasury Board and give these men their cheques.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich.

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**TRANSPORT**

## DATE WHEN MANDATORY TRAFFIC CONTROL OPERATIVE IN STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the Minister of Transport. In a reply to me yesterday he said there would be a mandatory system of communications in the waters of Juan du Fuca when arrangements with the United States authorities had been completed. Can he give the House and the people of British Columbia particularly any indication of where those negotiations stand at the present time and when they are likely to be completed so that we will know when this mandatory system of traffic controls in those waters will be in effect.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I do not have a precise date at this moment, but I understand the discussions are going on and I will attempt to get a better prediction for the hon. member.

**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, could the minister say whether those discussions are actually going on now or whether they are in abeyance for the time being.

**Mr. Lang:** My last information, Mr. Speaker, is that they were going on.

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● (1440)

**NARCOTIC CONTROL ACT**

## REASON FOR FAILURE TO PROCLAIM PART II—EFFECT OF PROCLAMATION ON OVERCROWDING IN PENITENTIARIES

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. In view of the fact that the largest percentage of inmates in Canadian penal institutions are those convicted of drug offences or drug related offences, and in view of the fact that our penal institutions are overcrowded, could the minister indicate why part II of the Narcotic Control Act, enacted more than 15 years ago and dealing with rehabilitation centres for drug offenders and care centres, has not been proclaimed as law so that it could relieve

the congestion and the problems we are now having in our penal institutions?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, that is really the responsibility of my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare. The reasons it was never proclaimed have been explained by him in the House, namely, a lack of facilities, a lack of agreement with the provinces as to treatment centres and a lack of agreement as to what the treatment should be. However, in a more positive light, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the Solicitor General and myself are reviewing work which was done in the Senate last session with regard to certain aspects of the drug situation, and we anticipate introducing measures in this House in the not too distant future.

**Mr. Woolliams:** In view of the fact that the Narcotic Control Act comes within the body of Criminal law and therefore is within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Justice to proclaim, would the minister make sure that this matter is on the agenda for discussions he will have from time to time with the various attorneys general of the provinces of this country?

**Mr. Basford:** Yes, I will, but there is already a liaison between the Department of National Health and Welfare and provincial departments with regard to this situation, and in a number of provinces the Department of Justice is involved in that liaison both with provincial ministers of health and provincial attorneys general.

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**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

## REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE—REASON COD QUOTA FOR FRANCE HIGHER THAN FOR CANADA

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. On Friday, November 5, the minister stated that he would prepare a statement for the House regarding the Canada-France negotiations. I would like to know if this has been prepared and when it will be available.

At the same time, I wonder if the minister or his colleague, the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment, would explain the reason for recommending, in the proposed fisheries management plan for 1977 covering the Gulf of St. Lawrence, that the cod quota for Canadian ships over 65 feet—which is actually the Newfoundland and Nova Scotia fleet—is only 16,500 metric tons while the quota for France is 18,500 metric tons. Would the ministers consider offering at least the same quota of codfish to Canadian deepsea fishermen they are now offering to France?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I will leave the latter part of the question to my colleague the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment. With regard to the first part of the question, I