

FISHERIES**INQUIRY AS TO ENFORCEMENT OF
12 MILE LIMIT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a brief question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is he in a position to say when all foreign fishing vessels will be excluded from the waters within 12 miles of our coasts?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the negotiations we are having will take on a new turn when we meet with the United States negotiators here this Monday.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**ACTION OF CABINET IN COMMUTING
SENTENCES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ralph Cowan (York-Humber): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I wish to address to the right hon. Prime Minister. Speaking in the house on August 31 in respect of the maintenance of railway operation bill, as reported at page 7909 of *Hansard*, the Prime Minister said that when the will of parliament is expressed by legislation the law abiding citizens of Canada will observe the will of parliament. I should like to ask him, does the cabinet not observe the Criminal Code and the law with regard to capital punishment, as it appears in the Criminal Code and as sustained by a vote in this house last April?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker; and when a jury makes a recommendation for mercy it has invariably been accepted in the form of commutation by the government.

Mr. Cowan: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In respect of the second last commutation there was no recommendation for mercy.

Mr. Pearson: That is not true, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Cowan: You will not get away with that.

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK FEED BOARD**ASSISTANCE IN STORAGE AND
TRANSPORTATION COSTS**

The house resumed from Friday, October 7, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-218, to provide assistance to livestock feeders in

Canadian Livestock Feed Board

eastern Canada and British Columbia—Mr. Sauvé—Mr. Batten in the chair.

On clause 15—*Canadian Livestock Feed Board Advisory Committee*.

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak again on this matter and I beg the indulgence of the committee in doing so, realizing I have indicated already on one or two occasions my thoughts with regard to this particular clause. I feel that in many ways this is one of the most important, if not the all-important clause in this bill in terms of its effectiveness in implementation, because I think if we fail to grasp the proper purpose of this bill, which is related to the power and quality of the advisory committee, then we endanger the very purpose of, and the very hope for, an effective bill. That is the reason I am somewhat disturbed that the advisory committee is painted for us, through the various subclauses of clause 15, as being a very ineffectual instrument, at least in my view.

It will be noted that in this bill we are seeking to establish a board which will consist of three to five members. As I indicated before we must expect, since these will be full-time members and since the problems with which they will deal will be very complex, that the persons who will be on the board will of necessity, I think, be people who would be described as experts. They will reside in Ottawa and they will, if you like, view things from a bureaucratic point of view. It is very important for the implementation of this bill that they do this. That is why I think that in the wisdom of those who have drawn up the bill they have decided it was fundamental to the implementation of this program that there be an advisory committee, but I would hope it would be an advisory committee that would mean something.

When I think of an advisory committee that would mean something, I think of an advisory committee which has an independence of judgment and has information available to it which is not just information given to it by either the board or the responsible minister. I think of it as a committee with close ties with the various interested groups such as the Federation of Agriculture, the various poultry, dairy and beef producers and others, even those who are trying to increase their own grain business either in eastern Canada or British Columbia.