

Inquiries of the Ministry

the reasons given by the CRTC in its press statement of March 25 saying that the ownership and control of the licensee company has not been clarified to the satisfaction of the commission, and would he point out in particular in what way these points have not been clarified by the licensee company?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I should be very happy to contact the Canadian Radio-Television Commission in order to ask whether additional explanations may be supplied to the hon. member who has just asked a question.

As regards the question put by the right hon. member for Prince Albert, that is to say who I am, I refer him to the Parliamentary Guide where he will find useful information about me.

[*English*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: The minister will hear about this. He is the most arrogant and insolent minister in Parliament. He is never here at all, he is always somewhere else.

FISHERIES**WEST COAST COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING LICENCES—POSITION OF INDIANS**

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might be permitted to change the subject and address a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. The question concerns the salmon licencing arrangements, with particular reference to the Indian people in British Columbia. Arising out of the answer given to me by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on March 25, may I ask whether the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has met with him since March 25, and have the two ministers reached a solution in regard to ensuring that the Indian people of British Columbia are not squeezed out of the salmon fishery?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure that the first part of the question is in order. The minister might like to reply to the last part.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, I have been in close consultation with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for some time regarding the problem faced by Indian fishermen in British Columbia being able to raise the amount of money necessary to pay

[*Mr. Nowlan.*]

their fees in the commercial salmon fishery in 1970.

Mr. Barnett: Can the minister tell me whether all Indian fishermen have been able to raise the fees and to qualify for permanent licencing in the salmon fishing industry in British Columbia under the agreement reached with the other minister?

Mr. Davis: All of the applications received so far from the native people on the west coast—and at this date they approximate half of the total—have included the full payment of the fee. We do not really see any problem. If, however, there is a problem we will meet it through the Indian fishermen's assistance program on the west coast.

GRAIN**WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—APPLICATION OF QUOTAS**

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture, but in his absence perhaps I may be permitted to direct it to the Prime Minister. First of all, I should like to point out to you, Mr. Speaker, that I have the roster before me and according to it the Minister of Agriculture is supposed to be on duty on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. In light of the concern in western Canada arising out of the wheat acreage program it is regrettable that the minister is not in the House today to answer the questions that western Canadian farmers are asking concerning this program. I will direct my question to the Prime Minister in the hope that he may be able to answer it. Arising out of the wheat acreage reduction program and the allocation of quotas based on summerfallow in the coming crop year, there is a guarantee of eight bushels per summerfallow acre of wheat allowable for delivery. Is this guarantee of eight bushels under wheat transferable to any other crop? I ask that question in all seriousness because very shortly western farmers will begin to plant their spring crops and will want to know whether or not the eight bushels are guaranteed for any crop other than wheat.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Florian Côté (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, allow me to answer this question on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture who is now in the western provinces precisely to try and settle the problems that my hon. friend finds alarm-