

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

debated from the beginning, from 1965, and involves what is referred to as the manufacturer's privilege in importing and exporting. To determine what would happen if this privilege were to disappear, I suggest that my hon. friend check with the manufacturers and the labour unions concerned before coming to a conclusion himself on this matter; mine is that the privilege should not be eliminated at this time.

PULP—REPORTED FEAR ON PART OF COMPANY OFFICERS ABOUT GOING TO UNITED STATES

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. My question is in connection with a report that in the past 18 months Canadian businessmen have been afraid to go to the United States for fear of being brought before a United States grand jury. These people are in the Canadian pulp industry and are acting in accordance with Canadian laws regarding exports. Has the minister any information on this subject? If he has information showing that this is actually occurring in the United States, what action does he intend to take?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I do not have any information, but I will look into the matter and report either privately or in the House next week.

CATALINA EXPLORATION COMPANY—ACTION RESPECTING OPERATION OF FOREIGN VESSELS ENGAGED IN SEISMIC WORK WITHIN THREE-MILE LIMIT

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Revenue. It has to do with the Catalina Exploration Company. Yesterday, as the minister and other members of cabinet are perhaps aware, that company met its creditors as a direct result of the government's failure to enforce certain laws and measures on our statute books. Can the minister indicate what steps he has taken with respect to the incursion into Canadian waters inside the three-mile limit by foreign registered vessels for the purpose of undertaking seismic work while Canadian vessels equipped and ready to do this type of work remain idle? What steps is the government taking with respect to extracting penalties or protecting Canadian enterprise?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise of the hon. member's question, but I can inform him that the present law provides that ships coming temporarily within the three-mile limit must pay full duty and tax due, unless it is established on the advice of the Canadian Transport Commission that for the purpose in question ships were not available, in which case there is a possibility of a partial remission of the duty and taxes involved. I have instructed officials of the department to ensure that the provisions of the law in this regard are being followed in so far as the law comes under the jurisdiction of the customs and excise division.

[Mr. Pepin.]

**Mr. Forrestall:** Am I to understand from the minister's reply that he does not intend to take any action with regard to the two vessels which did work within our three-mile limit while a Canadian owned and crewed vessel lay at the dockside at Halifax, which caused bankruptcy and the loss of 200 or 300 jobs?

**Mr. Gray:** I am having the two cases referred to by the hon. member looked into. Such action will be taken that seems appropriate after a report has been made to me on this matter.

\* \* \*

### FINANCE

ASSURANCE RESPECTING FORTHCOMING TAX CHANGES TO ASSIST OIL PRODUCERS IN AVOIDING EXPLORATION STAFF LAY-OFFS

**Mr. Cliff Downey (Battle River):** In the absence of the Minister of Finance I will direct my question to his parliamentary secretary. In view of the expression of opinion within the last few days by officials of a western Canada oil producer that they may be laying off up to 40 per cent of the staff of their western Canada explorations division, can the minister provide some assurance that the forthcoming budgetary and tax changes will not make this step a matter of immediate necessity for these resource companies?

**Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** The hon. member might like to direct his question on a day when the Department of Finance is answering questions in the House.

\* \* \*

### OIL

REPORTED DISCOVERY BY PANARCTIC ON KING CHRISTIAN ISLAND

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** I wish to direct a related question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the rumour that is circulating to the effect that the Panarctic Oil Company has discovered oil on King Christian Island, is the minister in a position to confirm or deny this rumour?

**Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** No, I am not, Mr. Speaker.

\* \* \*

### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** I wish to direct my question to the Minister of National Revenue. When is the minister going to table the long-awaited report on foreign ownership? If he is not going to do so immediately, what is the cause for the delay?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated to the House that the