

council stresses the great urgency of introducing legislation to deal with water pollution without further delay, is the government planning to introduce such legislation in the very near future?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, as this is a matter of great importance, would the leader of the just society hurry up the minister who is responsible so we can have this dealt with very quickly?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

### FISHERIES

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—ISSUE OF NEW SALMON FISHING LICENCES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries relating to the new regulations he has announced to control the size of the British Columbia salmon fishing fleet. The program as announced sets a top limit on the number of fishing vessels that may engage in the industry, and since objections have been raised about these new regulations, what steps does the minister propose taking to ensure that there will be no discrimination in the issuing of new licences?

**Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries):** Mr. Speaker, the licences are those of existing boats. The boats can be traded, they can be bought or sold by anyone. There is no limitation as to the number of fishermen; we have simply set a maximum on the number of fishing vessels on the west coast engaged in catching salmon.

**Mr. Crouse:** Mr. Speaker, if a licensed salmon fishing boat is burned or lost at sea, will a licence be granted to the new, replacement ship?

**Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, there will be no automatic granting of a licence. That particular vessel will be struck from the registry. An appeal committee has been set up to which the unfortunate owner can apply, and depending on the circumstances he may or may not obtain a new licence.

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Fisheries. A few days ago I asked the minister whether he would be prepared to take the initiative in referring these

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proposed new regulations to the committee on fisheries when it was established. Inasmuch as the membership of that committee was announced the other day, can the minister say when he will have on the order paper a motion to refer this matter to the committee for study?

**Mr. Davis:** Soon, I hope, Mr. Speaker. This is a new system; it is a world first. There are probably a few wrinkles which need to be ironed out, hence I will be only too happy to see it referred to the committee and hear positive suggestions on how to improve the system.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Could the minister say when this might be?

**Mr. Davis:** As soon as possible, Mr. Speaker.

### INDUSTRY

#### CAPE BRETON—REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF DEVCO REPORT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the importance to the people of Cape Breton of the Cape Breton Development Corporation and its policies, would the Prime Minister release the latest report so as to put an end to the persistent and disturbing rumours?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I believe this question was asked yesterday of the minister.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order; not only does the Prime Minister fail to get the import of the question, he fails to recognize the fact that this question was not answered. I ask him as head of the government to recognize the importance of the report of this crown company and of its policies for the future having regard for the fact that it was set up to help displaced miners. Since this government set up the crown corporation, 400 or 500 jobs have disappeared. Does he not consider it is time the report was released?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This is hardly a point of order. The hon. member is making an argument in support of the suggestion that the report be released. It is an argument, not a point of order.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.