

expects that any farmer who has not delivered his full three bushel quota of damp grain will be able to make delivery before spring?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I fail to understand the hon. member. I will read his question and try to answer it later.

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question for the minister. In the event that the Canadian Wheat Board is assessed demurrage charges owing to vessels waiting to load grain, will the government absorb those charges so that the cost will not be borne by the farmers?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The question as asked is hypothetical.

[Translation]

TRADE

LATIN AMERICA—REQUEST FOR REPORT OF MISSION

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce a question concerning another subject matter.

Would he tell the house if a full report on the ministerial mission to Latin America will soon be tabled and if a house committee will be invited to consider it?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs headed the delegation. He is therefore to table a preliminary report within a few days, and I am under the impression that he will submit it to the committee on external affairs and national defence.

[English]

HARBOURS

SAINT JOHN, N.B.—BERTHING PRIVILEGES DENIED FISHING VESSELS

Hon. Hugh John Flemming (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as Minister of Transport. Has the attention of the minister been drawn to the fact that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police during the last few days have been called in to force Charlotte county fishing vessels to discontinue using public wharves in the port of Saint John and to put to sea, thus placing them in grave danger? If so will the minister explain the cancellation of a privilege which has

Inquiries of the Ministry

existed for a good many years. Also, does the minister approve of such drastic action?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this question was brought to my attention just at the moment I came down to the house. The National Harbours Board advises me that this matter is a local one and has been solved at the local level. Port management in Saint John has made arrangements for fishermen to radio berthing requirements to the port prior to arriving, and the harbourmaster will continue to assign berthing to such vessels. I understand that this is satisfactory to the fishermen.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister or the Minister of Justice. Either may volunteer to answer. As a result of the implied threat contained in the Prime Minister's statement made in a press conference in London yesterday, may we receive a categorical assurance that the government does not require the R.C.M.P. to inquire into the private lives of journalists and assemble files on them.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there was no implied threat. I should like to say that in saying to the members of the press exactly what his feelings were the Prime Minister displayed that kind of courage which makes us on this side of the house proud to serve under his leadership.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): You said that with tongue in cheek.

TRANSPORT

NORTHUMBERLAND CAUSEWAY—ANNOUNCEMENT RESPECTING CONSTRUCTION

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to pose a question to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the long lead time required in order to take full advantage of the summer construction period, is the minister in a position to say when the government will announce that it is proceeding with the construction of the Northumberland causeway?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, we are not so prepared today.