

[English]

**STARRED QUESTION**

**Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Madam Speaker, would you be so kind as to call starred question No. 869?

[Text]

\*MR. HARRY SHORTEN

Question No. 869—**Mr. Gass:**

1. Does the Department of Fisheries and Oceans employ community service officers in the Atlantic provinces and, if so (a) how many (b) where are they located (c) what are the terms and conditions of their employment?

2. Was Mr. Harry Shorten's contract renewed and, if so (a) under what terms and conditions (b) for what amount (c) what is the term of the contract (d) what are his responsibilities (e) is he involved in any way with over-the-side sales and, if so, in what capacity?

[English]

**Mr. George Henderson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** 1. Yes.

(a) 21

(b) Louisbourg, N.S.

Petit Étang, N.S.

Bickerton, N.S.

Canso, N.S.

Pictou, N.S.

Meteghan, N.S.

Tiverton, N.S.

West Head, Shelburne County, N.S.

Lower Wedgeport, Yarmouth County, N.S.

Lockeport, N.S.

Leonardville, Dear Island, N.B.

Seal Cove, Grand Manan, N.B.

Lepreu, Chance Harbour, N.B.

Baie Ste-Anne, N.B.

Robichaud, N.B.

Bayfield, N.B.

Pokemouche, N.B.

Richibucto Village, N.B.

Caraquet, N.B.

Petit Rocher, N.B.

Tignish, P.E.I.

(c) The community service officers were hired on a term basis initially to be from April 1, 1976, to March 31, 1981.

2. Yes.

(a) To continue the program, co-ordinate planning and implementation of activities and submit a program evaluation report for the first quarter of the 1980-81 fiscal year.

*Privilege—Mr. Kaplan*

(b) \$23,880—covers salary, office and travel expenses, secretary and employee benefits.

(c) April 1, 1980, to June 20, 1980.

(d) (i) co-ordinate program activities;

(ii) develop awareness of the program among government personnel, fishermen's associations, communities and fishermen;

(iii) prepare and submit monthly progress reports covering all aspects of the program and quarterly evaluation reports.

(e) Yes, in 1980 he has been involved in an advisory capacity.

**Madam Speaker:** The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

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**PRIVILEGE**

MR. KAPLAN—STATEMENT MADE BY MEMBER FOR BURNABY

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. The hon. member opposite accused me of misrepresenting the facts. I should like the opportunity to clarify what I said, because I was not misrepresenting the facts and I think the hon. member has abused my privileges as a member of this House.

There was a letter referred to written by Mr. Justice McDonald to the parliamentary secretary. That letter concludes by saying:

I trust that you will bring this correction to the attention of those who may have understood that the position of my fellow commissioners and myself—

The parliamentary secretary did that. He brought this letter to my attention. I did not deny yesterday receiving the letter. I said, and I quote what I said yesterday: "I do not believe I have seen the letter—". I was wrong. I had seen the letter and I had answered it. My belief was wrong, but I did not deny that I had received it; I simply said that I did not believe I had received it.

The hon. member opposite said yesterday, which was not the fact, that I had denied receiving the letter. I did receive the letter. I went back to my office yesterday afternoon, saw that I had received it, read it, and wrote to Mr. Justice McDonald acknowledging that I had received it.

That letter from Mr. Justice McDonald did not, as the hon. member opposite says, ask the government to correct this inaccuracy. It simply said "—bring this correction—"

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson) on a point of order.

**Some hon. Members:** You can't.

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Madam Speaker, now that Your Honour has re-opened this subject for debate, I