Inquiries of the Ministry

FISHERIES

ST. MARY'S BAY, N.S.—DISPUTE BETWEEN SEINERS AND WEIR FISHERMEN

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. What action does the minister propose to take in order to solve difficulties existing between the herring seiners and the weir fishermen in St. Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia, which has apparently resulted in gunfire between the two groups?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair doubts whether this is a matter of particular urgency.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Judging from the reaction in the house there is an indication that this matter ought to be determined immediately. Perhaps it might be wise to allow the minister to answer the gunfire.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): The situation the hon. member mentions is being kept closely under review. There is an unsubstantiated claim that shooting has occurred and the R.C.M.P. has been called in. But so far we have no evidence of anything occurring this year which has not happened in previous years.

AIR POLLUTION

MEASURING DEVICES IN URBAN AREAS

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister without Portfolio in charge of water, renewal resources, energy, development and pollution control. My question relates to the installation of instruments in Vancouver for the testing and measuring of atmospheric pollution. Is the government contemplating the installation of this type of instrument in various cities across Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the question about these instruments may have relation to some departments of government with which I could get in contact in order to determine the plans. I will be glad to look at the question in that light.

COAL DUST FROM SHIPMENTS THROUGH VANCOUVER HARBOUR

Mr. Ray Perrault (Burnaby-Seymour): Can the Minister of Transport tell this house

that possible coal dust air pollution will not have to be tolerated in the North Vancouver-Vancouver harbour area from coal shipments destined for Neptune Terminals passing through National Harbours Board proper-

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member this is a question that might well be considered and debated at the time of adjournment.

LEGISLATION

UNDERTAKING TO PROCEED WITH BILL CONCERNING OFF-TRACK BETTING

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser): My question is directed to the acting house leader. With reference to the bill on off-track betting introduced yesterday, can the house leader say when it is the intention of the government to give this bill second reading? Will the house leader say if the bill after second reading will be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We hope to bring this bill forward very quickly. The languages bill presently before the house will be followed by the housing bill and the bill of the Minister of Finance dealing with taxes. These will have to receive priority, but subject to that we hope to bring it forward very quickly and refer it to the standing committee.

PENITENTIARIES

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT OF FEMALES AT PORTSMOUTH PRISON

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): My question is directed to the Solicitor General. In view of the reports of the Elizabeth Fry Society that some women are being kept in solitary confinement in Kingston penitentiary, has the minister checked these reports and is he going to stop this barbaric and inhumane penal practice?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): The minister responsible checked the situation very carefully. There are four persons in solitary confinement, one at her own request. It will be seen from this that the premise adopted by the hon, member in his question cannot be accepted.

PUBLICATIONS

"TIME"—COMMENT RESPECTING HOUSE MEMBERS

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East whether any positive assurances can be given Richmond): My question is directed to the

[Mr. Trudeau.]