

FISHERIES

ACTION TO ASSIST EAST COAST INDUSTRY

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries but in his absence I will direct it to the Acting Prime Minister. Will he inform the house when we may expect a statement on the action which will be taken by the government to assist the east coast fresh and frozen fish industry?

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, for very good reasons the Minister of Fisheries is not able to be here today, but I will take the question as notice.

SHIPPING

MERCHANT MARINE—SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION AT SHIPBUILDING MEETING

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): I have a question for the Minister of Transport with respect to the shipbuilding meeting on January 20 just announced by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Will the Minister of Transport, in charge of the revival of the merchant marine, be invited and be fully participating at the said meeting?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): My colleague indicates by nodding to me that that is the case, and I can assure my hon. friend of my interest in that very important subject.

Mr. Bell: I have a supplementary question. Will the minister give the further assurance that he and the government will keep in mind the promises made on June 17 in the heat of the election campaign by the present Minister of Forestry and Rural Development, who irrevocably promised a merchant marine for Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's supplementary question is argumentative.

RESEARCH

USE OF ANIMALS FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. In view of widespread public concern, is it the intention of the government to refer to an appropriate parliamentary committee at this session of parliament the matter of the use of animals for scientific research and other purposes.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, there is no such intention.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is it the intention of the government to introduce in this session legislation to regulate the experimental use of animals, such as they have in Great Britain and the United States?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I think that when the house leader reports to the house on the amount of legislation we have yet to deal with during the balance of the current session, my hon. friend will see that it will be virtually impossible to introduce any measures that are not contemplated at this time.

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Acting Postmaster General.

I should like to know why there has been an eclipse of the sun, the Quebec newspaper *Le Soleil*, in the reading room for about a month?

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member's questions will be drawn to the attention of the House of Common astrologers.

SPORTS

ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL SKI TEAM

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I asked the Minister of National Health and Welfare whether the government had received a request for financial aid to our national ski team and I was told the matter would be looked into.

Can the minister in charge or the acting minister give us any information in this regard?

Mr. Rosaire Gendron (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the minister is now presiding over the federal-provincial welfare conference, and I believe that upon his return to the house he will be pleased to give the member an answer.

[English]

TELEVISION

TRANSACTION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND GEOFFREY STIRLING

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I have a question for the Acting