

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** I will send the hon. member a copy of the speech I made in Edmonton a year and a half ago.

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

##### OIL SPILL IN THOUSAND ISLANDS AREA OF ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—INVOLVEMENT OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IN CLEAN-UP

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment and it has to do with the recent oil spill in the Thousand Islands area of the St. Lawrence River system. Is the federal government involved in any way in the clean-up operations and, if so, to what extent? Further, is there any danger to the Canadian side of the river?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of the Environment):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, some 4,000 barrels of crude oil were spilled in the area of the Thousand Islands, on the American side. There is a real danger that the crude could reach Canadian shores between Brockville and Kingston. Naturally, that will depend on both currents and winds. I know that at the present time violent winds are blowing. The United States have recognized that the spill is their responsibility, they are taking steps to prevent the crude from reaching the Canadian side. But we have no assurance that it will not, and we are working with them to reduce damages to a minimum.

[English]

**Mr. Murta:** My supplementary is, really, the first part of my question. If that is the case, could the minister bring us up to date as to exactly what the federal government is doing to ensure that in the event the oil does move into the Kingston area the authorities will be prepared to deal with it?

[Translation]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are working in co-operation with the American authorities. If at some point the Americans cannot contain the spill alone, there is no doubt that the Department of Transport and the Department of the Environment will help them directly.

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#### LOTO CANADA

##### REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE ADMINISTRATION NOT MODELLED ON LOTO QUEBEC

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the revelations made in the last few days concerning Loto Quebec, namely that influence and extortion tactics were resorted to, can the Prime Minister assure the House that Loto Canada will not be modelled on Loto

#### Oral Questions

Quebec and that it will not call on the concessionaires and distributors of the provincial lottery?

[English]

**Mr. Bob Kaplan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I would be glad to bring that question to the attention of the minister. He will be in a position to answer it when he returns to the House.

● (1440)

[Translation]

##### POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING TICKET CONCESSIONS TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** I also want to put a supplementary to the right hon. Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker.

Could the right hon. Prime Minister consider the possibility of granting the Loto Canada concessions to non-profit associations that are above suspicion such as those of the veterans, handicapped, blind and other worthy groups?

[English]

**Mr. Bob Kaplan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I will also bring that question to the minister's attention.

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#### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

##### EXTENSION OF COVERAGE TO ISOLATED AREAS—REASON FOR DELAY

**Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State who is responsible for the CBC. In view of the concern expressed by his colleague the Minister of Communications in a speech at St. Andrews-by-the-Sea over the extension of communication services to the north and isolated areas, would the minister indicate what progress is being made with the accelerated coverage program that the CBC has now had in effect for two or three years? No action, or it appears that no action, has been taken to extend T.V. coverage to remote areas that have yet to receive coverage.

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I do not have the detailed information with me but I will be pleased to provide the hon. member with details of the accelerated coverage plan for the province of Newfoundland.

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#### IMMIGRATION

##### POSSIBILITY OF LEBANESE BEING DECLARED REFUGEES—NUMBER IN CANADA

**Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. First of all, may I welcome the statement that he made regarding the relocation of Lebanese refugees in