

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

this move proved to be in achieving this desirable end?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I outlined the position of the department in a speech I made in the house some two weeks ago.

**Mr. Hees:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I have read the minister's speech word for word and there is not in it one word dealing with the matter about which I have asked. As I have said before, there is not in that speech one word answering my question. The minister has said he is setting up this machinery. I ask him a straightforward question: Has that machinery been set up? Would he honour his obligation as a minister in this house and answer the question yes or no?

**Mr. Basford:** I said I would consider the matter, Mr. Speaker, and this situation was dealt with carefully in the speech I made.

**Mr. Hees:** Has the minister's department completed setting up that machinery or is it in the process of setting it up; and if so, when does he expect it will be set up? This matter is not dealt with in the minister's speech.

**Mr. Basford:** I have completed my consideration of the matter, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Hees:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the minister insists on making statements which have no basis whatsoever in fact, and is deceiving the house.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

**FISHERIES****D.D.T. IN GREAT LAKES—CONDITION OF CATCH**

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. In view of the alarming d.d.t. levels found in fish in Lake Michigan, will the minister state if this condition exists in fish taken from Canadian waters?

**Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry):** Mr. Speaker, I made some inquiries through our departmental officials about d.d.t. levels in fish caught in the Great Lakes. I am told that the samples tested are well below the level of five parts per million, accepted by the United States Food and Drug Directorate. In practically all instances the residue has been less than two parts per million, and on the average less than one part per million.

[Mr. Hees.]

**CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION****RESIGNATION OF MR. DOUGLAS FULLERTON, CHAIRMAN**

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I ask whether Mr. Douglas Fullerton indicated to the Prime Minister or the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, either in writing or verbally, the reason for resigning from his position.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, he expressed his reasons in writing. I have had no verbal communication with the gentleman for a long, long while. The reason he gave in the letter tendering his official resignation was that he was resigning for personal reasons.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether the right hon. gentleman would be so kind as to table the letter of resignation.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I will check whether this is the practice, Mr. Speaker, and if it is usual I will do so. But I remember that the letter stated quite clearly that it was for personal reasons. If the house doubts my word, hon. members can always check with Mr. Fullerton. There was no pressure of any kind by the government on Mr. Fullerton to resign. We received a letter to that effect.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** I have a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I ask the right hon. gentleman how soon he expects to fill this most important position.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I would have to defer to the minister responsible for this agency to answer that question.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Then may I direct my question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** As soon as we find someone as competent and effective as Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** A supplementary question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Referring to this question, yesterday I asked the minister