April 6, 1970

[English]

FISHERIES

SEALS-PICTURES ON CBC TELEVISION-REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. Will the minister make a statement to the House at the earliest opportunity on the question of seal hunting? Pictures recently shown on television indicated that the law was being broken. Could the minister and his officials find out whether the pictures shown by the CBC were accurate representations, or fraudulent as has been suggested?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): Mr. Speaker, I will certainly give consideration to that submission. I may also mention that our mail in respect of seals is down substantially this year.

Mr. Hees: That is not because people are not writing.

ACTION ON SIXTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE, MAY 9, 1969

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice. Has the minister's department taken action on the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry of May 9 last? If not, when may we expect some action on the report?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the last time I replied to that question I said to the hon. member in the House that one of the witnesses was in Australia. We are having some trouble finding him.

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister consider sending the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate to Australia? He might have some luck in finding him.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That is a good idea.

• (3:30 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT RESPECTING HATE PROPAGANDA

of Bill C-3, to amend the Criminal Code, as the revised version. The reprinted version

Hate Propaganda

reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Douglas A. Hogarth (New Westminster) moved:

That Bill C-3, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, be amended by inserting the word "pub-licly" after the words "Everyone who" in line 6 on page 1.

Mr. Speaker: It is my understanding from the advice I have received that the words referred to are on line 7 of the bill as reprinted, as opposed to being on line 6 of the original bill. I assume that hon. members would want the proposed amendment to be moved in those terms. Is that agreed?

Sone hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Woolliams: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker; since I want to move several amendments to the bill it will be necessary to change the wording of my proposed amendments in the way Your Honour suggested just now with respect to the amendment of the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Hogarth). We did not receive copies of the new bill in our offices until this morning; I am talking of the amended bill which has been before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. As a result, we have had to rely on the old bill in drafting our amendments. I would ask that there be added to my proposed amendment the words "lines 1 to 9, on page 5 thereof". Otherwise, the amendment would read improperly.

While I am on my feet may I draw something to Your Honour's attention? Since these matters are now considered by a standing committee of the House of Commons instead of by a committee of the whole House, we are experiencing some problems in placing our amendments on the Order Paper in good time. I say that because amendments placed on the Order Paper have to be drafted before the reprinted bill is printed, and I ask for some direction from the Chair in this regard. It was impossible to draft proper amendments which are to be presented in this important debate touching on the freedom of speech.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, may I speak to the point of order? It is my understanding of the circumstances here that there was no obligation to submit a bill as reprinted. It was really for the convenience of the House that the reprinted version was circulated. On this basis, I do not think any hon. The House proceeded to the consideration member should be prejudiced by reason of