Order Paper Questions

resolutions are long and complicated, and to provide a meaningful explanation of every abstention would require a substantial examination of each in its proper context. The important point, however, is that an abstention does not represent failure to take a position. Like a positive or negative vote, it reflects a decision to take this particular position that has been arrived at by the government after consideration of all the relevant factors. Among the circumstances which can influence the government to register an abstention are the following: the government may favour a resolution generally but cannot support a particular part of it; it may wish to express dissatisfaction with a proposal rather than outright opposition; it may not wish to appear to be favouring one party or another so as not to prejudice the possibility of playing an eventual mediating role. (c) Under the authority of the minister or the cabinet as appropriate.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO SABLE FISH PACKING

Question No. 1,457-Mr. Hogan:

How much money has the government supplied since 1968 to a company variously known as Judy Linda Four, then Continental Sea Foods and now called Sable Fish Packing and situated in Shelburne County, Nova Scotia?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): As the Department of the Environment came into existence in June, 1971, the information is limited to: 1971-72, Nil; 1972-73, Nil; 1973-74, \$9,244.51; 1974-75, \$34,397.80. Under the regulations of the Area Development Incentives Act, payments amounting to \$132,687 have been made to a firm with a name similar to one of those in the question, Sable Fish Packers Limited.

FERRY SUBSIDY PAYMENTS—"CAMILLE MARCOUX"

Question No. 1,557—Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):

- 1. What was the subsidy paid to the operator of the ferry icebreaker Camille Marcoux for the construction of that vessel?
- 2. Who is the operator of the service to which the *Camille Marcoux* has been supplied?
- 3. For what reason was no mention made of such subsidy in the answer to Question No. 1,128?
- 4. Has the government had a request from the Government of British Columbia for financial subsidies in support of the ferry service forming part of the Trans Canada Highway, namely the Nanaimo-Horseshoe Bay service and, if so, will the government Table the exchange of correspondence?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of Transport and the Prime Minister's and Privy Council Offices as follows: 1. None.

- 2. Société des Traversiers de Québec, 25 Place Marché Champlain, Québec, Québec.
 - 3. No subsidy was paid.
- 4. The government of British Columbia has requested the federal government to provide financial support for the ferry service between Nanaimo and Horseshoe Bay. The federal government would be prepared to table correspondence dealing with the provincial request for assistance to this ferry service provided the government of British Columbia agrees.

[Mr. Breau.]

PROFESSORS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Question No. 1,563-Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):

- 1. Since 1968, how many non-Canadian university professors from developing countries have been awarded regular teaching fellowships by CIDA at Canadian universities?
 - 2. To which universities were they assigned?
 - 3. How many of these are now attached to Canadian universities?
 - 4. From what disciplines was the selection made?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. None.

- 2. Not applicable.
- 3. Not applicable.
- 4. Not applicable.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE—PROMOTION OF FARM MACHINERY MANUFACTURING IN WEST

Question No. 1,584-Mr. Hnatyshyn:

- 1. Is the government considering financial or other assistance such as stockpiling raw materials to promote farm machinery manufacturing in the West?
- 2. Is the government considering setting up emergency repair parts depots in major centres so that farm machinery repair parts may be available within 72 hours?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of Regional Economic Expansion and Industry, Trade and Commerce as follows: 1. The Department of Regional Economic Expansion continues to support actively the establishment of new farm machinery manufacturing facilities and the expansion of existing operations in designated regions of the West under the authority of the Regional Development Incentives Act. The department is also undertaking new initiatives in both Saskatchewan and Manitoba to investigate problems and opportunities existing in the industry. In Manitoba, a joint federal-provincial committee has been established to identify areas where joint action between the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and Manitoba could lead to new initiatives in the manufacturing and servicing sectors of the farm machinery industry. Under a Canada-Saskatchewan Subsidiary Agreement on Iron, Steel and Other Related Metal Industries, Canada and the provinces are actively supporting and promoting the establishment of new farm machinery manufacturing facilities as well as the expansion and diversification of the existing industry base.

2. The federal government is not considering the establishment of emergency parts depots for farm machinery. In this regard, it should be noted that the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta already have legislation in place intended to ensure that spare parts for farm machinery are available within a reasonable time period and that no additional measures are considered appropriate at this time.