

Routine Proceedings

a framework for the proper development, management in accordance with good practice. The objective is to ensure safety, to prevent human injury or loss of life, and to avoid damage to the environment—the marine environment in particular—and to property. It was found for the most part, that ferry operators already had management practices in place which complied with the published guidelines. During the work of the study group, all major ferry operators in Canada not already complying with the recommended guidelines, agreed to comply.

(b) This subject will be addressed in the Discretionary, Non-discretionary Study presently under way. Also, a Marine Occurrence Programs Division has been established within the Ship Safety Branch, CCG, which has as part of its mandate the conduct of independent safety research and analyses, to identify risks and potential safety deficiencies of vessels, including passenger ferries.

In addition, the working group mentioned under part (a) had, as its mandate to: 1) make recommendations on ro-ro ferry safety to the Canadian delegation to the Marine Safety Committee, 56th session; 2) consider the impact of ferry crew practices; 3) review shipborne management practices; and 4) review emergency plans for Canadian ferries.

The working group reviewed the safety audit team's report which indicated that many of the recommendations and some of the criticisms evolving from the "HERALD OF FREE ENTERPRISE" have already been addressed in Canada. Areas which will require further attention were identified, however, e.g. stability calculations and draught marks to be recorded. It was noted that the list of items requiring attention by the Canadian Coast Guard is not necessarily an indication of serious deficiency in ferry safety in Canada—several of the considerations are not even mentioned by the IMO documents and all of them are now being addressed. Positive comments were also noted such as the good communication between ship/shore management and crews.

CANADIAN FORCES SUPERANNUATION ACT

Question No. 370—**Mr. LeBlanc:**

Will the Armed Forces Pensioners and Annuitants be receiving an increase in their Survivors' Benefit to 60 percent in accordance with the Pension Benefit Standards Act and if so, when?

Hon. Gilles Loiselle (President of the Treasury Board and Minister of State (Finance)): A review of the survivor benefits payable under the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act is included as part of the Public Service pension reform initiative currently in progress. This and other pension reform matters will be given careful consideration and an announcement regarding the timing and content of amending legislation will be made at an appropriate time.

FISCAL YEAR 1990-1991—DEFICIT

Question No. 377—**Mr. Bosley:**

For the fiscal year 1990-91 (a) what is the government's present projection for the deficit (b) is the government considering reducing spending for the balance of the year in order to bring the deficit down to the original projection?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): As indicated in the speech to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Edmonton on September 17, 1990, the Minister of Finance now expects that the deficit for 1990-91 will still be held under the \$30 billion mark, but could run \$1 billion and \$1 1/2 billion higher than indicated in the February 1990 budget.

The government will closely monitor the situation and will continue to manage expenditures tightly to bring the final outcome for the year as close as possible to the original budget projections.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Question No. 402—**Mr. Althouse:**

Do Canadian Grade 11 students receive a complementary agenda calendar/time management booklet from the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages and if so (a) what is the cost of producing and distributing this material on a per unit basis (b) what is the cost of producing and distributing this material on a Canada-wide basis?

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): The Commissioner of Official Languages reports directly to Parliament and not through a minister. Questions can be made directly to him.