

*Oil and Gas Act*

## INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think the record will show that in no previous session have so many questions been answered so quickly by any government.

**Mr. Rose:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If I may clarify the matter for the Prime Minister, I was not speaking of answers to questions on the Order Paper but of replies by ministers to personal correspondence from private members.

**Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. The minister has asked western farmers not to grow wheat this year, and this will result in loss of income to western farmers. Is this the minister's method of asking the farmers to fight inflation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member's question is clearly argumentative.

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

## APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put this question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that several months ago we passed a bill in this House to appoint extra judges in various provinces and there has been a delay, would the Prime Minister assure the House, in view of the backlog of cases piled up in various courts, that these appointments will be made expeditiously?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** As far as I am aware, Mr. Speaker, I think that all of the judges for whom there is room under the statute have been appointed except for one.

**Mr. Woolliams:** A supplementary question. I say this with all due respect, but there are several vacancies for judges in Alberta which have not yet been filled, and we are asking for some action in this regard.

**Mr. Trudeau:** On this question, Mr. Speaker, all of the Alberta judges were appointed at the cabinet meeting yesterday.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Then when will the announcement be made, and could we have the names or are these secret appointments?

**Mr. Trudeau:** I must inform the hon. member that his name is not on the list.

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Did the cabinet yesterday appoint a justice of the Court of Appeal of New Brunswick, a position that has been vacant since last September?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I will take the hon. member's request under consideration.

## POLLUTION

## CHEDABUCTO BAY—SUPERVISION BY FISHERIES DEPARTMENT OF ACTIVITIES CONCERNING TANKER "ARROW"

**Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries whether he can assure the House that the Department of Fisheries is supervising the activities at Arichat where the *Arrow* is situated?

**Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance. I know there are a lot of officials there, but I do not know what they are doing.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate have passed the following bills to which the concurrence of this House is desired: Bill S-18, an act respecting Brunner Corporation (Canada) Limited; Bill S-19, an act to amend the Parole Act.

• (12 noon)

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

## OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION ACT

## AMENDMENTS RESPECTING DEFINITIONS, APPLICATION, OIL AND GAS COMMITTEE

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development)** moved that Bill S-5, to amend the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.