

of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in reference to grain. I wonder at this time whether he can assure the House of Commons and the country whether there is now sufficient No. 2 northern grain being moved to Vancouver to load the ships which have been lying idle for so long.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): That is the purpose of the operation that is taking place now, but I will have occasion in the next three or four days to see for myself. I will make a more specific answer when I return.

Mr. Woolliams: I wonder whether, when the minister makes the trip and the investigation, he will assure the house that we have not lost any of our markets, particularly the Japanese market.

FISHERIES

B.C. SALMON—ACTION TO RESTORE STABILITY TO INDUSTRY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the crisis in the British Columbia salmon fishing industry and the imminent closure of coastal salmon packing operations affecting the livelihood of over 600 workers will the minister say what action is planned by the government to restore some stability to the industry in which two pioneer firms have been driven out of business?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking the question in a very general way. He is asking the minister to make a statement of policy. I doubt whether the question as asked is in order.

Mr. Crouse: I would like to ask what action the government is taking in this regard.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): I should like to make clear that the salmon fishing industry on the west coast, over all, is in good shape. However, some areas are in difficulties. We have been holding discussions recently with the Indian people who live in those areas.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I should like to direct to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Arising from the meetings held in Terrace, British Columbia, by the minister, and the representations made to him by Indian workers affected by the lay-offs at the packing plant, and by the 3,000

people in those families, will the minister say whether he is making any recommendations to the government to accelerate its economic development program for Indians in that area.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, on my return from Terrace I immediately got in touch with the Minister of Fisheries. We discussed that problem and we are trying to find a solution for those 300 Indians who may suffer from the after-effects of automation. We are also considering schemes that would enable us to promote other economic activities in the area.

[English]

RESEARCH

AVAILABILITY OF REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that a nuclear physicist from the University of Toronto suggested last weekend that scientific research in this country is in a very unfortunate state, I wonder whether the Minister without Portfolio—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that hon. members are getting into the rather bad habit of prefacing their questions by allusion to statements made outside the house. I would think this is not good practice. The hon. member should ask the question directly.

Mr. Broadbent: I will do so, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatchewan-Humboldt inform the house when he anticipates his review of government scientific research programs will be complete.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): I have a little difficulty understanding which review the hon. member is referring to.

Mr. Broadbent: I was not aware that the minister was conducting more than one review on scientific policy. If so would he tell us which review he intends to report on first.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

AVAILABILITY OF POSITION PAPERS AND AGENDA

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask