

TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT FOR  
C.C.G.S. "ESTEVAN"Question No. 294—**Mr. Anderson:**

1. Does the government intend to proceed with the plans announced on June 19, 1968 by the Minister of Transport to replace the CCGS *Estevan*?

2. If so, when will invitations to submit bids on this ship be issued?

3. Will bidding be restricted to west coast shipyards as the Minister of Transport announced on June 19?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** 1, 2 and 3. Decision to restrict tenders for any replacement of C.C.G.S. *Estevan* to west coast shipyards, as previously announced, has not been changed. However, budgetary considerations required a review during the summer of coast guard shipbuilding program priorities. Also, the results of an operations research study on coast guard vessel use, initiated earlier, became available and suggested that the marine work of the coast guard on the west coast could be handled to the same standard of service through the use of new techniques and programming of ships and other vehicles without the present replacement of the *Estevan*. Therefore, for the present, this project has been set aside.

## CHARTER OF STEAMSHIP "CABATEAL"

Question No. 301—**Mr. Dumont:**

Did any government agency charter the ship *Cabateal*, registered in the Bahamas whose crew is Spanish and agent is "Transworld Shipping", to transport cargo to the Canadian East Arctic?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** As a result of a tender call, a contract was awarded to a Canadian company, Transworld Shipping for employment of the vessel *Cabateal* in connection with Arctic supply work this summer. No suitable Canadian vessel was offered as the *Federal Pioneer* (Canadian) the only other 10,000 ton ship offered was chartered for the Dew line. The *Cabateal* is a vessel of Bahamian registry. The Department of Transport does not have detailed knowledge of the composition of the crew, but it is understood that the captain is of Canadian nationality and the chief engineer is of British nationality.

EMPLOYMENT OF FORMER HUDSON BAY  
COMPANY PERSONNELQuestion No. 306—**Mr. Dumont:**

How many persons, formerly employed by the Hudson Bay Company, were hired by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in 1965-66-67-68?

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## Questions

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** 1965-66, 11; 1966-67, 15; 1967-68, 19.

## SALE TO CUBA OF TUNA FISHING SHIPS

Question No. 308—**Mr. Crouse:**

1. Are negotiations under way for export credit financing from a Canadian tuna company in connection with the possible sale of five modern Canadian tuna fishing vessels to Cuba?

2. If so, what are the details of this proposal?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** The Export Credits Insurance Corporation reports that: 1. It has not been approached by a Canadian tuna company in that connection.

2. N/A.

CONSTRUCTION OF ASTROPHYSICAL LABO-  
RATORY IN SAUDI ARABIAQuestion No. 309—**Mr. Anderson:**

1. Has the Department of Trade and Commerce received inquiries from Saudi Arabia concerning the construction of an astrophysical observatory in that country by a Canadian firm or firms?

2. If so, is it still the intention of the Department of Trade and Commerce to continue with these negotiations?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** 1. No. However, knowledge of this telescope project was obtained by a Canadian firm working in Saudi Arabia. This firm, along with others, received official confirmation and information on the status of the project from the Saudi Arabian authorities through our Beirut office.

2. While we have not entered into any negotiations, the department stands ready to assist these Canadian firms.

CONTROL OF BUD WORM INFESTATION,  
NEW BRUNSWICKQuestion No. 326—**Mr. Flemming:**

1. Has the Government of Canada received representations from the Government of New Brunswick and/or the forest products industry of that Province relative to the serious condition of the forests of New Brunswick which many knowledgeable people consider is caused by a recurrence of budworm infestation?

2. If so, is it the intention of the Government of Canada to co-operate with the Province and private industry in their campaign to maintain the condition of this most vital natural resource?

**Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries):** No.

2. Not applicable.