Oral Questions

URBAN AFFAIRS

GRANVILLE ISLAND, VANCOUVER—FUTURE OF PROPERTY AND PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of activities and reports concerning Granville Island in the city of Vancouver, and the expenditure there of some \$25 million by the trustees of CMHC which, even though no housing or mortgages are involved, owns the property, what is the federal government's policy concerning the future of this property and what is the purpose of the proposed expenditure?

An hon. Member: They are going to call it Basford Bay.

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this is a demonstration project which has already given excellent results and which involves an important part of Vancouver. This project has been under way for a certain number of years and it is now about to be completed.

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

SPRUCE BUDWORM—USE OF PESTICIDE SPRAYS IN FRASER CANYON AREA—APPROVAL FOR USE OF ORTHENE

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of the Environment, may I direct my question to the acting minister or the parliamentary secretary? In view of the urgency of the matter and since federal officials have been engaged in discussing this question, could the acting minister advise whether a final decision has been made regarding the use of pesticide sprays in the control of the serious budworm infestation in the forests of the Fraser Canyon area of British Columbia?

Mr. Jim Fleming (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): No, Mr. Speaker, I understand that a final decision has not been made, although the government of British Columbia is expected to make such a decision this week. The view of the federal Department of Fisheries and the Environment is that, if it is properly handled, there are no serious dangers connected with the use of the pesticide needed to fight the spruce budworm.

Mr. Patterson: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the wide divergence of opinion on that particular question, can the parliamentary secretary advise whether, as has been alleged by some, the pesticide Orthene is still in the experimental stage, or has it been fully tested and approved for use in such circumstances?

Mr. Fleming: Mr. Speaker, Orthene has undergone extensive tests, as is necessary before its approval for use.

[Mr. Allmand.]

[Translation]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

ALLEGATION RUSSIAN SUBMARINES OPERATING OFF WEST COAST—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. Hugh A. Anderson (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of National Defence.

[English]

Could the minister confirm—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Continue in French.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): You are a phony, Anderson.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Speaker, could the minister confirm that two Yankee class Union of Soviet Socialist Republic nuclear submarines are on station off the west coast of Canada and the northwest coast of the United States on a 365-day a year basis, and say whether the submarines carry tactical nuclear weapons and, if so their numbers?

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): How can the minister know that?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I prefer not to comment in any detail but confirm that there are such submarines operating off the Pacific coast of Canada and the United States.

Mr. Nowlan: What about the Atlantic coast?

ENERGY

AVAILABILITY OF MIDDLETON REPORT ON RENEWABLE ENERGY—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has the report on the potential and costing of renewable energy in Canada, by Middleton Associates, reached the minister's attention yet?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Yes, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring to the report prepared and submitted some time last fall.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, actually, the report was submitted last April. If the minister has read it, would he make the report available to the public, particularly to municipalities and provincial governments?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to consider that suggestion.