Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Pichette of the New Brunswick government and probably some others. This, I believe, will meet the situation. There is no change as far as set net fishermen are concerned.

[Later:]

Mr. MacLean (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I should like to add to the answer I gave a few moments ago to the question by the hon. member for Northumberland-Miramichi in order to be more specific. Drift netters are now allowed to continue fishing for salmon until July 20. I think this is what I indicated earlier. From July 20 to August 3 will be the normal summer lift period. Fishing can again be carried out from August 3 to August 15. No change has been made in the summer lift period for shore nets, since those were not damaged to any great extent in the recent storm. Their lift period will, as usual, commence on July 6 and continue to July 20. Fishing may again be carried on from July 20 to August 15.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.—STATEMENT ON CRASH
OF CANSO AIRCRAFT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence, and ask him if he is able to give the house any information regarding the reported crash yesterday of a Canso aircraft at Prince Rupert?

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): I have just received a report from the Royal Canadian Air Force that a Canso aircraft with a total complement of nine persons aboard was on an authorized mercy flight from Sea Island, Vancouver to Prince Rupert. At Prince Rupert a normal landing was initiated. However, preliminary investigations indicate that the aircraft struck a submerged object which caused it to veer sharply to the left with the result that the front nose section broke off. Immediate assistance was provided from ashore. However, it was not possible to locate Nursing Sister Flying Officer Kerr who had been occupying a seat in the front section of the plane. Latest reports indicate that Flying Officer Kerr is still missing, but all other persons are accounted for.

Mr. Howard: A supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. Can I ask the minister whether the airstrip at Prince Rupert presently being constructed is sufficiently complete to allow it to be used for emergency landings? Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): I will check on the state of construction of that airstrip and let the hon. member know.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REPORTED CRITICISMS OF PROGRAMS ON FRENCH NETWORK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Alexis Caron (Hull): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. According to a press report in the Toronto Star, last winter at least two confidential documents blasting the talks and public affairs branch of the C.B.C.'s French network were prepared by a group of Quebec Conservatives and submitted to the government. My question is this. Has the minister received a letter from Quebec members criticizing the public affairs department of the French network?

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): I saw that statement in the newspaper yesterday, and to the best of my recollection I never received such a letter. It may be—and I am checking on this—that it was sent through the office automatically to the C.B.C. because, as I said in another place yesterday, I forward all letters commending or criticizing the broadcasts to the C.B.C., and it is possible that such a communication was received and sent down. I will check on this, but I do not have any knowledge of the letter myself.

Mr. Caron: Would the minister check and give us an answer?

An hon. Member: He just said he would.

Mr. Caron: He said he would check on it but he never said he would give an answer.

May I direct a further question to the Minister of National Revenue? We are told that Rene Levesque was forced to discontinue his very interesting program "Point de Mire". Can the minister give any reason for the discontinuation of this program?

An hon. Member: Look at the date and find out what happened.

Mr. Caron: Perhaps whoever said that would rise in his place and speak and not just sit there.

Mr. Nowlan: I did not hear the name of the program to which the hon. member referred, but whatever it might have been I have no explanation to make and no knowledge of why any change was made.

Mr. Caron: May I direct a question to the Solicitor General.