

if this treaty is to come into force, it will have to give away the Yukon fisheries?

Hon. John A. Fraser (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member, who is from the West Coast, is better at making statements than he is at reading the text of the treaty. The treaty does not say that Canada and the United States have to enter into an agreement on the Yukon River. What it does say is that both sides will set a range to establish a beginning of negotiation, and they will then meet in October of this year to talk about the Yukon River. The difficulty is that my hon. friend keeps confusing the setting of a range of fish available to either country as a beginning to negotiations with that of a commitment to settle the matter, when it cannot be settled without the negotiations the treaty clearly implies.

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● (1450)

CRIMINAL CODE

GAMBLING PROVISIONS

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. I ask the Minister if there is any intention to remove or amend the gambling provisions of the Criminal Code to legalize gambling machines, casinos, or other public gaming places?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, we have a very rowdy opposition. There is no present intention to do what the hon. lady refers to in her question. However, there is a request from one of our provinces that certain changes be made—

Mr. Blackburn (Brant): Which one?

Mr. Crosbie: —which we have under advisement. It shall remain secret until I reveal it in the next installment.

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[Translation]

HOUSING

DECISION TO CUT BUDGET FOR HOUSING RENOVATION PROGRAM

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Housing in Canada. Last week, spokesmen for the housing co-operative societies of the Greater Montreal area staged a sit-in in the office of the Hon. Member for Verdun-Saint-Paul, to protest the \$4.5 million cut announced by the Minister in the housing renovation program that was related to co-operative housing. Can the Minister tell us whether he is aware that

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if he stands by that decision, he runs the risk, first of killing co-operative housing in the Greater Montreal area and in all Canadian urban centres, and, second, of witnessing a significant rent increase?

[English]

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Member for assisting me in clarifying something which may be unclear in his mind and in the minds of his constituents. There has been no decision made by the corporation on the disposition of non-profit RRAP to which the Hon. Member refers. It is included, along with other programs, in the study that this Minister and the corporation are doing. I would also suggest to the Hon. Member that the decisions made by a Crown corporation are not decisions made by a Minister.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. McKnight: The Hon. Members were here when we passed the amendments to the Financial Administration Act, Mr. Speaker.

I suggest to the Hon. Member that I am working with the corporation, with the group from his very city whom I met last night, and with the Co-Op Housing Foundation, to find ways, given the fiscal constraints facing this Government, to provide housing units for those in need in Canada.

[Translation]

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT GIVE SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Rather than looking where to make cuts in social housing programs, would the Minister have the courage to do what the former Minister responsible for Housing under the previous Government did, that is get to the Minister of Finance and ask him to provide his Department with extra funding rather than invest \$110 million in sending soldiers to Germany?

[English]

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would only answer questions which are my responsibility. However, I would suggest to the Hon. Member that this Government will not cut co-op housing by 41 per cent as was done by the previous Government. I will inform the Hon. Member that, with co-operation from those who are committed to providing housing in this country, this Government will provide more units in the co-op housing field than that Government did last year, and for fewer dollars.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!