

Oral Questions

ed to low income housing and meets the criteria which are normally applied.

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GRAIN**WHEAT—ENCOURAGEMENT OF DELIVERIES BY DEFERMENT OF PAYMENT SETTLEMENT UNTIL 1974**

Mr. Frank Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. Because of the urgent need to encourage western producers to deliver the maximum possible amount of grain in this calendar year to meet export sales, and in order that they will not be penalized by storage charges or income tax, will the minister allow producers to defer settlement until 1974 without penalty?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): We have looked into the question of income tax deferrals. Such action was taken in the immediate post-war period under a law then in effect but no longer in effect. A legislative amendment would therefore be required in order to allow the kind of postponement to which the hon. member refers.

Mr. Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): I was not thinking in terms of income tax deferrals but of deferring the cash settlement for the grain until the year 1974. Would the minister also consider paying interest on the deferred settlement if it comes about?

Mr. Lang: I do not think they can have it both ways. I was referring specifically to the deferral of payment. The difficulty in the present situation is that a payment to which one is entitled may be taxable even though it is not actually received. The point therefore is to determine whether we could arrange a credit situation that did not attract tax.

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HARBOURS**PROPOSED OIL TANKER PORT AT GROS CACOUNA—INQUIRY AS TO INVITATION TO ENVIRONMENT MINISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN VISIT**

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of the Environment. In view of the fact that a large delegation of parliamentarians, government officials from Quebec and the federal Department of Transport and businessmen visited the area of the Gros Cacouna oil port last week. Would the minister inform the House whether he or any of his officials received an invitation to visit the port with this delegation and, if not, would he have liked to receive one?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): The answer to the latter part of the question is yes. I do not know of any invitation and I will have to inquire whether any officials of Environment Canada were invited or were present.

[Mr. Basford.]

FISHERIES**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO FISHERMEN IN VIEW OF ICE CONDITIONS**

Mr. Walter Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Fisheries. Is the hon. gentleman now able to inform the House as to the government's reaction and response to the request from Atlantic fishermen for assistance to compensate them for loss of earnings because of heavy ice in their area?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): I can only say that the matter is under active consideration.

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TRANSPORT**CREW OF MOTOR VESSEL "TRAVETAL"**

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In order to do something about employment in Atlantic Canada, if only in a small way, will the minister bring the House up to date as to the present situation with respect to the crewing of the motor vessel *Travetal*?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think we sent a wire yesterday to the owner of the *Travetal* and he will probably be allowed to operate for a couple of months to St. John's, Newfoundland.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**REQUEST THAT CANADA SUPPORT INITIATIVE AT NATO COUNCIL MEETING RESPECTING FUTURE OF GREEK GOVERNMENT WITHIN ALLIANCE**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Will the minister support an initiative at the NATO Council meeting later this week which would consider the future of the military government of Greece within the alliance?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): It is not the intention of the Canadian government to call for the expulsion of Greece from the NATO alliance.

An hon. Member: Why?

Mr. Sharp: I want to make the point quite clear. We are not in favour of the expulsion of Greece from the NATO alliance, not because we agree with the principles upon which its government is operating but because we think it would neither help the alliance nor help in achieving the goals we have in common. However, I shall, at this conference, be supporting what I consider to be one of the fundamentals of the alliance, namely, the upholding of democratic principles.