Tabling of Documents

SHIPBUILDING

SITUATION OF INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. In view of the very critical situation in the British Columbia shipbuilding industry, will the Minister inform the House when the decision will be made to build the Polar 8 icebreaker? And will it be built in B.C. shipyards?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Acting Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, that issue is currently under active consideration, and I would expect a decision to be made quite soon.

REQUEST THAT ICE-BREAKER BE BUILT IN B.C. SHIPYARDS

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, since the revised proposals to build the ice-breaker in B.C. have considerable advantages and shipyards in eastern Canada already have received federal contracts, does the Minister agree that B.C. shipyards should build the Polar 8 ice-breaker?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Acting Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all of these matters will be taken into consideration; and obviously I will take the representations of the Hon. Member into account as well.

LABOUR RELATIONS

DISPUTE AT EDMONTON PACKING PLANT—ROLE OF VETERINARIANS

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. The Minister knows that he is forcing veterinarians in the Gainers strike in Edmonton to take on the duties of regular inspectors because of the threat of violence, and he is threatening these professionals with disciplinary action in refusing to answer their phone calls. I wonder if the Minister will withdraw that threat of disciplinary action against the professional veterinarians in that Gainers strike.

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is a member of the veterinary profession. He should recognize that, indeed, we do have some legal obligations under the Meat Inspection Act, particularly upon the observation and the assessment, the decision, of a labour or safety officer. If he deems the workplace to be safe, the picket line to be safe, then we have a legal obligation to have

inspectors in the plant. We are simply fulfilling our legal obligations as indicated to us by the Department of Justice.

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER INTERVENE

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): My supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. I wonder if the Prime Minister would take the time to call his friend, Peter Pocklington, and ask him to bring his industrial relations into the 20th Century.

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think it is rather a silly question. I am sure that if we checked the record we would find that there has been no change in the legal obligation that directs our meat inspectors at the moment, from the same legal obligations under which they found themselves during the previous Government.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It is now 3.10 p.m.

a (1510)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

TABLING OF DRAFT BILL TO AMEND

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 67(2), I am pleased to lay upon the Table a draft Bill dealing with proposed amendments to the Criminal Code in the area of mental disorder.

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION ARRANGEMENTS

TABLING OF REPORT OF MINISTER

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 67(2), I am pleased today to table, in both official languages, my report to this House on my consultations and review of proposals to reform Public Service pension arrangements.

TABLING OF REPORTS OF ACTUARIAL CONSULTING FIRMS

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased as well to table in both official languages two reports and documents from an independent private sector actuarial consulting firm on the current financial state of the Public Service plan and on other reform issues.