

Pollution of Chedabucto Bay

ous circumstances. I have asked Dr. McTaggart-Cowan and his associates to have the pollution cleaned up by the start of the major fishing season in the area about May first.

Mr. Forrestall: They have a fat chance.

Mr. Jamieson: They have undertaken to do so to the very best of their ability.

Mr. Forrestall: A fat chance they have.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, what kind of comments is the hon. member making?

Mr. Forrestall: Why did you people not burn the oil. Why did the minister not deal with that?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister has the floor now.

Mr. Forrestall: Why did he not deal with it, Mr. Speaker? Why did he not deal with the question of burning the oil? Tell us why.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Minister of Transport.

Mr. Jamieson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Forrestall: Why did you not burn the oil? It was crude oil, not rude oil.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether the minister should not be allowed to finish his statement.

Mr. Forrestall: Yes, let him finish.

An hon. Member: This behaviour is quite normal for the opposition.

Mr. Nowlan: You wouldn't know anything about that, Joe.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, apparently it is impossible for me to complete my remarks to the House.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

An hon. Member: Let's pour oil on troubled waters.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We do not appear to be making much progress. Perhaps the minister might be allowed to complete his

[Mr. Jamieson.]

statement and then some hon. members on behalf of opposition parties will have an opportunity to comment on the statement.

Mr. Jamieson: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying, I have asked Dr. McTaggart-Cowan and his associates to have the pollution cleaned up by the start of the major fishing season in the area about May first. They have undertaken to do so to the very best of their ability. In their effort they will have the full support of all government and many private Canadian and international agencies.

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan is meeting today with the Premier of Nova Scotia so that he may be fully informed and that the interests and concerns of the province are taken fully into account. They have also been co-operating throughout and their efforts will also contribute to the solution.

I indicated previously that an independent inquiry into the accident will be held without delay. In addition, the project group will maintain detailed records of all their activities and prepare a full report and recommendations which will, I am sure, prove helpful to us and to the international community in the future.

Mr. Forrestall: Shameful, shameful!

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition.

Some hon. Members: Forrestall, Forrestall!

An hon. Member: Let's hear from him.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Nowlan: You people over there had better be quiet.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I thought for a minute hon. members were calling for the white paper.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

● (2:50 p.m.)

Mr. Stanfield: The minister referred to the coldness of the water off that part of Nova Scotia at this time of year. I think he realizes that however cold that water may be, the water he is in is pretty hot.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!