

travel in Canada, and in particular the recent evidence that a number of Canadian students will be deprived of the opportunity of fulfilling their air charter travel as previously organized under the old affinity rules, can the minister advise the House if he is actively conferring with officials of the Canadian Transport Commission with a view to drawing up a set of workable regulations concerning air charter service in this country because there has been a failure of the ABC's, and in particular is any consideration being given to accommodating these Canadian students affected by the ABC's?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think the House knows that the Air Transport Committee of the CTC was formed in order to protect the ABC's against outside influence. I think this committee must make its own decisions. However, I am ready to check into the case referred to by the hon. member and will try to help everybody.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister did state in the House that he would be prepared to examine these regulations personally after they were implemented for some time, and improve upon them or recommend improvements to the ABC's, will the minister now take that course of action and confer with officials of the CTC with a view to up-grading these regulations into a set of working rules?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, in many cases I have drawn the attention of the CTC to certain effects and shortcomings of the regulations, and I hope everything will be taken care of.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUEST OF YVES GEOFFROY FOR NEW TRIAL— MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Justice.

As notary Geoffroy's lawyers asked the department for a second trial a few weeks ago and as perjury charges were directly related to his trial and laid before the court a few days ago, does the minister intend to wait for proof of perjury before ruling on the possibility of ordering a second trial in the Geoffroy case?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, we are in the process of carefully assembling the facts relating to the request for reconsideration. The events now unfolding in the courtroom will also be taken into consideration in dealing with this request and, as a result, I do not anticipate giving a definitive answer at the moment.

Oral Questions

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY GREY SEALS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF ATLANTIC

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries regarding a matter on which I have made representations to his department for some time. In view of the great difficulties caused by grey seals to fishermen in certain areas of Atlantic Canada, including the constituency of the government House leader, does the minister have under active consideration any measure to aid the fishermen at this time, and would he undertake to send some of his departmental officials to the area to seek some practical ways to solve some of the problems of the fishing industry there?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, each time I visit the area fishermen make representations about this problem which they encounter. The department has had a program in effect there for a number of years, and it is being reviewed.

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PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPED CONVICT McCANN—POSSIBLE CHARGES AGAINST VANCOUVER "SUN" REPORTER

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General who mentioned investigating the statements made by the convict who escaped from the British Columbia penitentiary. Is the government considering investigating how a reporter for the Vancouver *Sun* could find this escaped criminal, and is the government contemplating any charges against the interviewer for not reporting where the convict was when he saw him?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the escaped inmate telephoned the reporter. It was not the other way around; the reporter did not contact the inmate. We will be looking into the question of whether the reporter could be charged with any type of offence.

● (1600)

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON PENAL REFORM—REPRESENTATION OF YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the answer given by the Solicitor General to the member for Hamilton-Wentworth yesterday concerning the federal-provincial conference of attorneys general. Can the Solicitor General tell the House whether the Yukon and Northwest Territories are going to be represented at that conference, which I understand will be discussing penal reform, and if not, why not?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I understand that they will be included.