

contribute to the stimulation of the economy. They have recognized their own responsibility in this regard.

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## VETERANS AFFAIRS

### STATUS OF TREATY INDIAN VETERANS

**Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Has the Minister determined how many treaty Indian World War II veterans, who were denied full veterans' benefits because of their treaty status, are presently making representations to his Department for their lost benefits? How much longer will these treaty Indian veterans have to wait for what all other veterans received automatically?

● (1450)

**Hon. W. Bennett Campbell (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Madam Speaker, I have met with representatives of the Saskatchewan Indian Veterans Association as well as having exchanged correspondence with the Alberta Indian Veterans Association. I have asked both parties to bring forward all of the cases where there are concerns. We are now analyzing each individual case and providing a detailed response to everyone of them.

### REQUEST THAT OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE SITUATION

**Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is also directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Would the Minister consider sending two or three gentlemen from his Department across the country to search out the veterans who served their country in a time of need but who have been denied their veterans allowance and benefits because of their treaty status? Many of them, from every reserve across Canada, are without these benefits and do not know that they were even entitled to them. Will the Minister have people from his Department, which is responsible for veterans affairs, assigned to find these men and give them the recognition they deserve?

**Hon. W. Bennett Campbell (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Madam Speaker, the Indian Veterans Association in both of those Provinces has been working with treaty Indian veterans on the reserves. We also have two counsellors working out of the Saskatoon office who are working specifically with reserve Indians.

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## RAILWAYS

### CROWSNEST PASS RATE—PROPOSED MINISTERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**Mr. Bill McKnight (Kindersley-Lloydminster):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Can he

## Oral Questions

explain why he is making an announcement in the City of Winnipeg on Tuesday regarding the statutory rates for the movement of grain instead of making that announcement in the House of Commons where it should be made? The Minister should be questioned in the House of Commons where he can respond to those who want to ask him questions, instead of hiding in the City of Winnipeg making that announcement.

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, I am sure the people of the City of Winnipeg will not welcome that question. Winnipeg, of course, is the centre of the world when it comes to grain matters!

The announcement will be made in Winnipeg by two of us, the Minister of Employment and Immigration being one. The announcement will be made in Montreal also. The Minister of Agriculture will travel to Halifax, Toronto, and Montreal.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Who will make the announcement in the House?

**Mr. Pepin:** The Minister of Regional Economic Development will be making the announcement in the House and answering questions. I am sure the Prime Minister will answer quite a few as well. We are not neglecting any major city of Canada, or the House of Commons.

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## FISHERIES

### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF KIRBY TASK FORCE REPORT

**Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Madam Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. Today is the last day of January, and the Minister knows that the Kirby Task Force report was promised to be released in November, then in December, and again in January. The Minister also knows about the crisis in the Atlantic fishing industry. The industry is on hold, waiting the release of that report and the critical recommendations contained in it. When will the report be released? I hope the Minister will not be content with saying "Soon."

**Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Madam Speaker, I can say to the Hon. Member, the former Minister of the Department, that his impatience will end in the very near future.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. De Bané:** Madam Speaker, I will not limit myself to what the Hon. Member has suggested, that is, to table the Kirby report. I will propose a policy to the Atlantic fishermen which has been adopted by the Canadian Government. I will go even further than the recommendations—

**Mr. Crosby:** They are already tabled in *The Globe and Mail*.