

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

into the war production program, specifically, low interest loans, fast write-offs and other financial incentives, to make it possible for industry to undertake the relatively heavy expenditures which are necessary in order to rid their waste of bacteria before it is dumped into the environment?

Mr. Speaker, I asked a supplementary question but the Prime Minister did not answer.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): I have a supplementary question I should like to address to the Minister of Fisheries. About ten days ago—

Mr. Hees: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I asked a supplementary question and the Prime Minister was rising to answer it. This has nothing to do with fisheries—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps we might have some order during the question period. The hon. member did ask a supplementary question but there was no reply and the hon. member for Kootenay West suggested he had a supplementary question to ask. I recognize the hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. Hees: On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister was half way up to answer my question. I am sure he wants to answer it. Would you be good enough to let him answer?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. Hees: So that is the great Liberal dialogue: One way; no answers.

Mr. Harding: This question to the minister has to do with the subject of pollution. About ten days ago the hon. gentleman promised to make a statement to the house on motions regarding the situation at Placentia Bay in Newfoundland and the problems arising from it. May I ask the minister when he expects to be in a position to make a full report to the house?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Hees: Another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry was about to reply to the supplementary question we have just heard.

[Mr. Hees.]

Mr. Hees: My question, Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member kindly co-operate with the Chair? I will give him an opportunity to ask a further supplementary question later. I am not sure whether the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry completed his reply to the hon. member for Kootenay West, but I will allow the hon. member—

Mr. Hees: May I address my supplementary question to the Prime Minister? I will repeat it. I know he wants to answer. When he considers the approach of the federal government to this question of pollution will he give consideration to adopting policies similar to those which proved very successful in the last war in inducing industry to enter into the war production program, namely loans at low interest rates and fast write-offs?

Mr. Speaker: Order. That is not a supplementary question. It is a submission which the hon. member has now made known to the government.

**FINANCE**

ACTION TO PREVENT TAKE-OVER OF ROYAL SECURITIES CORPORATION BY U.S. COMPANY

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I address this question to the Minister of Finance? In view of the serious implications which could arise from a take-over of the Royal Securities Corporation by Merrill, Lynch and Associates, does the minister intend to take any steps to prevent this take-over or, if matters have gone beyond the point of no return, does he intend to take any steps to prevent further take-overs of Canadian financial institutions by foreign companies?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): This subject is, of course, one of considerable interest to the federal government even though power to deal with it lies mainly with the provinces, since the corporation in question is a provincial one and since the principal activities of the institutions involved come under provincial jurisdiction.

I met last Thursday, at their request, with the heads of the two firms to hear about their plans, but did not give them any assurances or warnings. The implications of this take-over are I understand under consideration by stock exchanges and by the provincial authorities. The officers of the Bank of Canada and of my department are considering those aspects relating to the money market