

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. There is just a minute or two left before the end of the question period. With the co-operation of hon. members we might be able to have a few more questions.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am glad somebody asked that question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: I have said in the House before that we would bring in legislation to act against profiteering or those who are making undue profits, and in effect we will be giving first reading to that type of legislation in a very few days.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): More selective price controls?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate that the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi is anxious to ask a supplementary. I will recognize him in a moment. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Graftey: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

POST OFFICE

POSTAL WORKERS' STRIKE—MEASURES TO ASSURE DELIVERY OF SOCIAL SECURITY CHEQUES

Mr. Heward Graftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. This is my twelfth year in the House and my first question of privilege.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Graftey: After I questioned the Postmaster General I left the House and I was informed by his department that unemployed people in my riding could go to the nearest unemployment office to get their UIC cheques. My question of privilege is that for the majority of the unemployed people in my riding, and in many ridings across the country, the nearest UIC office is 70 miles away. Is the minister suggesting that the unemployed in this country, who have other things to do, should travel 140 miles to get their unemployment cheques?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. My impression is that not much will be accomplished between now and the calling of orders of the day. But with the co-operation of hon. members, and I seek their co-operation at this time—I am sure they would not want this noise to go on all afternoon—I will recognize the minister. The hon. member rose on what might be a supplementary question and the minister might be allowed to reply, following which I will recognize the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster and then call orders of the day. May we have order, please. I call on hon. members to cease this

Oral Questions

shouting across the aisle. It is highly unbecoming, I suggest, to the dignity of this institution if there is any left.

● (1510)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I would tell the hon. member, in the utmost earnestness, that I am very astonished that he has just been made aware of the fact, since my colleague the Minister of Manpower and Immigration had already told this House last week.

* * *

[English]

FISHERIES

OVERFISHING OF SALMON OFF GREENLAND BY DANES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Tom Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries, though I would not want to interfere with the Prime Minister any time he wishes to leak part of the budget. Does the government have evidence of overfishing of salmon by the Danes off Greenland in open defiance of the salmon agreement in which the minister took great satisfaction? If this is so, what is the hon. gentleman's next move to be? Where does this leave the Atlantic salmon fishermen and the ban that was imposed?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): As to evidence, the answer is yes, we have evidence of overfishing. As to what we are going to do next, the International Commission for the North Atlantic Fishery meets in June and we shall be dealing with the salmon issue at that time.

Mr. Bell: Would the minister get hold of the Secretary of State for External Affairs and persuade him to get tough with the Danes?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

LOBSTERS—SUGGESTED CHANGE OF SEASON DATES BECAUSE OF ICE CONDITIONS

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to move to another species of fish. Is the minister aware that because of ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence lobster fishermen are unable to lay lobster traps? Since this situation recurs from year to year, what action does the minister propose to take in future to change the dates of the lobster fishing season to suit these fishermen?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): We have changed the opening dates from year to year depending on natural conditions such as ice.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. McGrath: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the usual question from the House leader of the Official Opposition, may I ask the government House