

deal with the licensing of premises used in this connection, the entry of inspectors, and power to enforce regulations in general. No matter how well they may be operating, there is no legislation under which the Canadian Council on Animal Care works. This is the point that the hon. member for Vancouver East was making.

The hon. member for Lanark and Renfrew referred to Bill C-150, which deals basically with pet animals, and said that this legislation has been widened. The hon. member should have referred to another bill, because then I think his comments would have been more penetrating. I refer to Bill C-44, which was introduced this session by one of the hon. member's colleagues on that side of the house, the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. Groos). The description of that bill is as follows:

An act to provide for the humane treatment of vertebrate animals used in scientific and industrial experiments, tests or training by recipients of grants from the government of Canada, by agencies of the government of Canada and by persons manufacturing pharmaceutical or biochemical products for sale to the government of Canada or to any of its agencies.

That is a strictly federal bill. Unfortunately, because it is a private members' bill and because it was not lucky in the draw, it will not be discussed this session. But I think that bill is very much to the point. Consequently, I am more than ever convinced that we should not rest until this whole matter has been studied by a House of Commons committee. Whether it be the agricultural committee or another committee is not important at this stage. The important thing is to recognize the necessity of undertaking such a study.

The predecessor of the present Prime Minister showed great interest in such a committee being established. When I asked this session that such a committee be established, the only objection raised by the government house leader was that there was not sufficient time to deal with the matter, having in mind other legislation to be considered by the house. But I urge that we take the first opportunity to establish such a committee and thereby really measure up to our responsibility for looking after the welfare of animals in this country. We have expressed our responsibility in this regard, now let us act upon it.

[Translation]

Mr. Antonio Yanakis (Berthier): Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr.

Winch) for drawing the attention of the house to this very relevant question.

I wish to join briefly in this debate because my riding, that is Berthier, is essentially a rural one and a large number of my constituents are engaged in the breeding and slaughter of animals. As representative of this riding, I must see that the latter activity is carried out in the most humane way possible.

In the Berthier riding, there are fish-breeding stations for purpose of supplying the lakes for fishing and for experimental purposes. There is mink-breeding for commercial purposes and hogs, cattle, chickens, etc. are raised for the market.

Having visited various facilities, I am happy that modern and humane methods are used today which are oddly different from the cruel ones in use previously and which are still too often employed, namely clubs, knives, axes or else the method which we recently deplored during the seal hunting season.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. B  chard): Order. Private members' hour having expired, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

LABOUR RELATIONS

DISPUTE BETWEEN SHIPPING FEDERATION AND LONGSHOREMEN

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that the date of March 31 has arrived, can the minister tell us what he intends to do tomorrow with regard to the situation not only in the port of Montreal but along the whole of the St. Lawrence River.

Hon. Bryce S. Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Until I receive the conciliation board report, which I should receive by midnight, I have no way of anticipating what the position will be in the port of Montreal tomorrow. As hon. members know, seven days after receiving the report the unions