

future to look closer at creating a maritime industry of which we could be proud. That, however, must be done in a way that is attuned to the industrial strategy of our country. It must be done as a vacuum occurs, and it must be done gradually. This must not be like the implementation of the Official Languages Act. What happened with regard to that program would happen again if we went along with the minister on this proposal. To say that by 1980 we would have a maritime industry would be just like when we said that by 1978 or 1980 everyone in Canada would be bilingual.

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): We never said that.

Mr. Oberle: The minister says they never said that. There was certainly an attempt to do it. In any event, it is probably a poor example. However, if we ever do become bilingual in this country, and that is certainly the desire of all members of this House, it must be over a period of 25 to 30 years. The process should not be started in the hierarchy of the civil service in Ottawa or in the regional offices. We should start with the educational system in our schools. It is probably a poor comparison to make.

Mrs. Campagnolo: We are talking about ships.

Mr. Oberle: Hon. members are again aroused. Every time something like this comes up, the hon. member is reminded of the letters she receives from her constituency. Many people write to her saying, "For God's sake—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): The hon. member is again skating at thin line. I suggest he get back to Bill C-61.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Oberle: That is probably because of my seatmate who is such a great Canadian skater. I was merely trying to demonstrate that we are always on solid ice. We have to make a commitment. I am sure that all hon. members are prepared to make that commitment. However, we have to know what are the costs. We must establish a proper time-frame and it must be in conformity with the aims and ambitions of other sectors of the economy as well as individual Canadians. We must know what the costs will be and who will bear them. We must also find out where the subsidies are to come from. I am at a loss to know what additional costs any of the industries I referred to are prepared or, indeed, able to pay. In that sense, we are not against the establishment of a maritime industry. There have been shortages of ships on the west coast to ship wood fibre products. Possibly we should stimulate ship-building in Canada. However, we must not do that in a way that rules out selling these ships to other nations, or rules out access to other vessels in our ports.

The hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) referred to the poor seamen who travel on these foreign vessels and come into our ports. If every country did what this country intends to do, those poor seamen would not have any jobs at all. I wonder if the hon. member has considered that. It is time we in this country examined what is happening here and around the world.

Maritime Code

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his allotted time has expired.

Some hon. Members: Carry on.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): The hon. member may only continue with unanimous consent. Is there consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Oberle: I appreciate the courtesy that has been extended to me. I was just making my closing remarks. I was pointing out that it is high time we examine what is going on in our country. Possibly we have been a little extravagant in according ourselves a standard of living that is out of tune with what other countries have accorded themselves. We may have priced ourselves out of the market with regard to foreign trade. We are faced with a trade deficit which will be very difficult, if not impossible, to correct. We are faced with a slow growth in the increase of our gross national product. We are not experiencing any real growth in the economy. Therefore, at this time we can ill afford to create another problem which will have to be paid for out of the public purse, or which someone else will have to subsidize.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand (Mr. Knowles)—Finance—Proposal that capital gains tax not apply to sale of family farms; the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez)—Communications—Proposed use of balanced armature receiver by Bell Telephone—Request for delay; the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie)—External Affairs—Allegation Israel has stockpile of nuclear weapons—Government action.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

MARITIME CODE ACT

MEASURES TO PROVIDE A MARITIME CODE FOR CANADA

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Lang that Bill C-61, to provide a maritime code for Canada, to amend the Canada Shipping Act and other acts in consequence thereof and to enact other consequential or related provisions, be read the third time and do pass.