

Inquiries of the Ministry

We have also discussed the possibility of changing these dates. Our scientists have advised us that because of conservation measures it would not be proper to change the dates. The programs we have initiated over the last year have been beneficial to the fishermen, more so than in any year in the past. We hope our programs will continue to benefit the fishermen this year, too.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. Lundrigan: I think the minister's Parliamentary Secretary has misled the House in not answering the question I raised and by giving the impression that the government does have a program. The government does not have a program, and false information has been given to the House regarding a program of the Department of Fisheries which hon. members have just applauded. This kind of misrepresentation is certainly not in keeping with the attitude of the minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

IMMIGRATION**PASSAGE THROUGH CANADA OF AMERICANS EN ROUTE TO CUBA**

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Is he aware that 500 young Americans are passing through Canada on their way to Cuba? Can he tell us if the governments of Cuba and Canada have reached an agreement whereby the transfer of these American immigrants to Cuba has been authorized?

[English]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there is no such agreement. These people have been treated in the normal way as persons seeking transit through Canada to the United States and vice versa.

POLLUTION**CHEDABUCTO BAY—SITUATION RESPECTING TANKER "ARROW"**

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): My question is to the Minister of Transport. I

am glad to see him in the House today although, according to the roster system, he is not due to be here. In view of the fact, as reported this morning, that the stern of the Arrow has now sunk in Chedabucto Bay, can the minister make a statement as to what the government plans to do to try to abate and restrict the pollution of the water from the sunken stern?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I anticipated that there might be some questions on this important matter; hence my reason for being here.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jamieson: It is a fact that as a result of the extremely severe weather experienced yesterday in the area of the wreck, the stern portion of the vessel slipped even farther off the ledge on which it was impaled. As a result, all of the vessel but the funnel is under water. This sinking did not result in any large additional expulsion of oil, but it does mean that a larger amount is seeping out of the vessel, apparently as a result of the extra rupture in the stern section.

If hon. members opposite are interested in the details of this matter, then they might at least give me the courtesy of remaining quiet while I try to answer the question.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jamieson: The present position is that we are now trying to examine means through which we can burn the oil in the forward part of the ship, and do the same thing with the stern section in its present location since we cannot attempt to move it away from where it is on the bottom of the ocean.

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Since the efforts of the Minister of Transport have been ineffective in dealing with this problem, and since the problem has arisen in the minister's own constituency, may I ask him whether he will impress upon his cabinet colleagues—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows that he cannot ask a question in those terms.

REQUEST FOR LISTING OF PHOSPHATE CONTENT OF DETERGENTS ON CONTAINERS

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the