

Oral Questions

the hon. member's question and look into the matter immediately.

* * *

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**SUGGESTED REFERENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF DRILLING IN BEAUFORT SEA TO STANDING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Bob Wenman (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. In view of the decision to delay issuing oil drilling permits in the Beaufort Sea, and as the Minister of the Environment said that drilling operations in the Beaufort Sea would cause substantial environmental impact, whether or not polluting incidents occur, would the minister consider referring the question of environmental impact of drilling in the Beaufort Sea to the appropriate standing committee of this House for special study?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, a committee of technicians has studied the matter. We have the report and I think the hon. member, too, has a copy of the report. I think it was discussed this morning in the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry. Now, the matter is before cabinet and I am waiting for an answer.

* * *

INDUSTRY**TRIDENT AIRCRAFT CORPORATION—REQUEST FOR GRANT**

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce concerns Trident Aircraft Corporation of Richmond, British Columbia. As the British Columbia Development Corporation and the shareholders of the company agreed to put up a considerable sum of money if the federal government will either guarantee a PAIT loan or grant, can the minister say if there is to be a favourable decision shortly, or any decision at all on the matter?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of the most recent development concerning the British Columbia government, but I am glad to see that it supports the company. Prior to this question this morning, about three or four weeks ago, I instructed our officials to be in touch with Trident with regard to any additional help that we might give. The hon. member already knows that we have put a significant amount into that project. I will certainly follow up this new information to see if it helps matters.

* * *

● (1200)

AGRICULTURE**BROILERS—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO CURTAIL IMPORTS**

Mr. G. H. Whittaker (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Earlier

[Mr. Andras.]

in the question period the minister stated that the broiler industry is being put out of business because of cheap imports into Canada. Does his government condone this type of action? If not, what are they going to do about it?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are concerned about it, but it is up to the broiler producers themselves. We have legislation to give them protection if they follow proper procedures and prove that they have supply-management within their industry at the present time. I stated there were cheap imports being brought in from the United States. I did not say they were being dumped.

TOBACCO—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO INCREASE RETURNS TO PRODUCERS

Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the low prices prevailing this year at the tobacco auctions and the difficulty tobacco farmers are having in meeting their costs, does the minister feel these concerns are justified? Is this something within the purview of his ministry? If this is a problem, what will he do about it?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think that some of the concerns are justified. I will not go so far as to say they are all justified. I met with tobacco growers from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Ontario this week. They are concerned about the buying authority in the tobacco industry and how much real competition there may be in the buying authority. They are concerned about the fact that they have an 18 months supply and there are imports coming into Canada from the United States and other parts of the world which take away the markets from these producers. They also talked about a national marketing board for tobacco.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PRIVILEGE**MR. SHARP—REMARKS OF HON. MEMBER FOR YORK-SIMCOE IN YESTERDAY'S DEBATE**

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege, of which I have given you notice. Last night the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) violated the practice of this House by making unsubstantiated allegations about unspecified ministers. At page 11926 of the debates for yesterday, the hon. member is recorded as saying:

"Do as I say, not as I do" appears to be the creed of the present administration. Surely, Mr. Speaker, this type of thinking is shown up so clearly in the judge's affair that is now before us. What administration at a senior level of government in Canada other than this administration would be allowing cabinet ministers who have acted illegally to carry on in their posts?