

receipts were not kept, at least 25 per cent, and in some cases more, of gross income is to be taken as a guideline. I think we have accommodated, to the degree that we can, the traditional way of doing business in the fishing industry. There is to be no harassment and I certainly will not tolerate that. Where I hear of individual cases, and I can really only deal with them on an individual case basis, I certainly will take action.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** Hit them with a flounder!

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#### THE ADMINISTRATION CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. It relates to the conflict of interest rules brought down by the Prime Minister in April, 1980, part of which reads as follows:

Ministers must also take care to avoid placing, or appearing to place, themselves under an obligation to any person or organization which might profit from special consideration or favour on their part.

That provision also applies to executive assistants and principal secretaries, in order to get around the Sherman Adams vicuna coat syndrome that occurred under President Eisenhower.

The principal secretary to the Prime Minister accepted a free ride to and from Washington over the weekend in order to participate in a function at the Canadian embassy. I know there is provision in the conflict of interest rules for disclosure of gifts over \$200, and this would be worth considerably more than \$200. I want to know from the Acting Prime Minister whether instructions have gone to principal secretaries in the Prime Minister's office and all ministers' offices, which indicate that this is not a proper activity on their part, to put themselves in that position with private corporations in this country.

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance):** No, Madam Speaker. I heard about it just at this moment; therefore no instructions could have gone out.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** The minister is ever vigilant.

#### USE OF AIRCRAFT BY CABINET MINISTERS

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Madam Speaker, I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. He will certainly be aware of the fact that Department of Transport planes are being used by cabinet ministers for electoral purposes in the byelections that are taking place today, and in other byelections. Is he asking the ministers involved, who are flying into the byelection territories on government planes, for a contribution toward the actual cost of those planes from the Liberal Party of Canada? Are we going to carry on this kind of pork-barrel operation in the department? Is the minister not going to crack down on this?

#### Oral Questions

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, members of cabinet can use the planes of the Department of Transport on government business. One of the articles that I read during the weekend made that point very clearly and indicated that, as a matter of fact, members of cabinet were doing just that. I have no reason to believe that they are not.

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

##### ALICE ARM, B.C.—DUMPING OF TAILINGS BY AMAX—REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF REVIEW PANEL CHAIRMAN

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, on March 24 of this year the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans responded to a question that I raised about the tragic Alice Arm situation. He said "To ensure that my department does not examine itself, I have recommended that a scientific panel of distinguished outsiders look at the matter and give me their advice."

Since it was revealed on Friday that Dr. McNerny, who was appointed by the minister as chairman of this now famous Amax panel, in fact set the levels for the January, 1979, permit on the advice of Mr. Littlepage, who was paid approximately \$1 million by Amax to prepare their case, a situation that has clearly put Dr. McNerny in a conflict of interest situation, will the minister immediately, in this House today, remove Dr. McNerny from that panel?

**Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Madam Speaker, my experience with the hon. member's allegations is that the first thing you do about them is check them very carefully.

**Mr. Fulton:** Madam Speaker, the minister's comments will no doubt come out in the wash in the coming months.

#### REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, I will put my supplementary question to the Minister of the Environment. Dr. McNerny is also Mr. Littlepage's boss at the present time, which adds substantially to the conflict of interest situation. Since the chairman of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee of the B.C. Medical Association—a group which I am sure the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans would call kooks or quacks—has put on the record that the lives of Canadians are endangered by the Amax dumping, will the minister put an end to this shameless cover-up in Canada and at least call a public inquiry into the health and safety of this situation?

**Hon. John Roberts (Minister of State for Science and Technology and Minister of the Environment):** Madam Speaker, my view is that expressed by my colleague. The important thing in this situation is to find from outside government and independent review which will establish exactly what the scientific implications are and that is being done by the government.