

Mr. Diefenbaker: I am not engaged in debate. I am asking a question. The Prime Minister has given a rather garrulous answer. I simply ask him, is there any bigotry in a motion of the legislature of British Columbia?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Trudeau: You are the expert on that.

Mr. Hees: No fuddle-duddles, now. Oh, oh! We heard you.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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CANADA LABOUR CODE

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENT

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. I preface it by saying I wish he had been given control over the Unemployment Insurance Commission. He undoubtedly could have straightened out that mess. Can the minister indicate to the House if and when the Canada Labour Code amendments relating to collective bargaining procedures, which died on the order paper at the end of the last session, will be introduced in the House? If they are to be introduced, will they be in the same form or are there to be amendments to the bill of last session?

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I assure the hon. member that the Canada Labour Code bill will be back in the House, I hope, before too many weeks have passed. The hon. member will have to wait to see to what extent it is changed.

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[Translation]

FISHERIES

POSSIBILITY OF HIGHER MERCURY CONTENT BEING ALLOWED IN CERTAIN SPECIES

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of the Environment a question?

Has the minister ordered appropriate studies to be carried out with a view to increasing over 0.5 the allowed mercury concentration for some species of fish?

[English]

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Studies have been conducted along these lines and, working closely with the health and welfare people, we hope some revisions will be possible in the future.

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TRANSPORT

OMISSION OF LACHINE CANAL IN TAKEOVER BY DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Raymond Rock (Lachine): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern

Inquiries of the Ministry

Development arising out of the announcement he made yesterday. Why was the Lachine canal not included in the takeover of historic canals and given national park status?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lisgar.

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GRAIN

PLANS TO ALLEVIATE TRANSPORTATION AND HANDLING PROBLEMS ON WEST COAST

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): I wish to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. What plans does the federal government have to alleviate the crisis that has been building up in the grain handling and transportation systems on the west coast other than taking what appears to be the backward-looking approach of reducing present sales efforts in export markets?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, first of all I should like to assure the hon. member that our objective in sales continues to be the objective of setting new records each year and to build our system to the maximum. We have been calling for the co-operation of all parties,—the railways, the elevator companies and the men who operate them—to achieve new ways to make the existing system work better. In fact, some of my recent meetings have been directed toward securing that co-operation and it has been forthcoming. I see reason to be optimistic about being able to go after higher and higher sales levels.

Mr. Murta: I come back to my original question because of the seriousness of the problem that has developed in Vancouver. What is the government going to do about alleviating the problem in the immediate future with regard to the backlog of boats that has developed in the port of Vancouver?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, as a result of the discussions and the co-operation to which I referred there is a new and higher target for unloading of cars at Vancouver. There now appears to be some willingness on the part of the terminals to operate on a seven-day week basis, all of which will help the situation with regard to the ships which are waiting and which are coming. The Wheat Board has sold to the absolute limit of the capacity of that port. At the same time, we are looking into the question of additional facilities or different techniques that may be required to increase the throughput out of Vancouver in the future.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of members are seeking the opportunity to ask supplementaries on this subject. With the co-operation of hon. members, we should try to limit the number of supplementaries. For the moment the hon. member for Fraser Valley West will be recognized.