

provinces. Until we have something to tell each other, I do not understand why we should meet. It is as simple as that, Mr. Speaker.

Miss MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister would care to correct her terminology so that she does not further aggravate the differences with the provinces.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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PENITENTIARIES

MILLHAVEN—REASON FOR WITHHOLDING NAMES OF INMATES INVOLVED IN HOSTAGE TAKING

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Solicitor General. It results from an inconsistency in penal policy which is unfair to certain guards at Millhaven Prison. His department has refused to give the public the names and records of the convicts at Millhaven who last week took a hostage at knifepoint and barricaded a section and created serious trouble. Just previously, his department gave the public the names of three guards who did their duty by protecting Canadian persons and property in the ultimate wounding and shooting of escaping convicts. Will the minister explain why his department cannot be consistent and cease discriminating against public servants and officials who are performing their duties?

● (1452)

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): There is, of course, no discrimination. Guards in the penitentiary service perform a very valuable function in Canadian society. As to the specific question why the names of the inmates were not released, I will look into the matter and get in touch with the hon. member.

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FISHERIES

ALLOCATION OF SPECIES TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES— RELATIONSHIP TO PROVISION OF WORK FOR HALIFAX SHIPYARD

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, my question would have been directed to the Minister of National Defence, but in his absence I will direct it to the Minister of Fisheries. It relates to the awarding in the last day or two of the contract for the overhaul and repair of the Italian fishing vessel *Cormorant* to a St. Lawrence River shipyard. In the light of recent discussions the minister has had with Eastern European countries about the further allocation of certain of the offshore species of fish and in turn the offer made by certain Eastern European countries with respect to repair and overhaul work which could go into the Halifax shipyards now facing, probably, their greatest crisis since long before the Second World War, has the hon. gentleman arrived

Oral Questions

at any decision with respect to an upgrading of the allocation of certain offshore species so that the shipyards might enjoy the type of work they so desperately need?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, my conversations were not linked to the allocation of further resources. In fact, it is our intention to make gradual quota reductions in accordance with our capacity to catch and to market and take over more and more of the 200-mile economic zone. I recognize that in some cases access to the zone and, possibly, also, our access to markets should be discussed with the use by foreign vessels of our shipyards. I made it clear that I would look favourably, under the Coastal Fisheries Protection Act, to allowing foreign fishing vessels into our shipyards or into our ports for repairs or supplies, if this trade-off is against other benefits for Canadian fishermen.

Mr. Forrestall: I welcome the minister's assurance that we do not intend to give away more of our species which properly belong to our own fishermen and to our own industry.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POSSIBILITY OF AID IN CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FLOATING DRYDOCK FOR HALIFAX

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): May I direct a supplementary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion? In the light of this very serious blow—we have probably lost between 1200 and 1500 jobs and have quite possibly put in peril or in jeopardy the only major ship repair and shipbuilding capacity in the Province of Nova Scotia, certainly in the port of Halifax—may I ask the minister whether he is now in a position or will soon be in a position to tell us the government's intention with respect to its involvement in the construction of a new floating drydock for Halifax and, at the same time, with respect to the decision respecting the West Coast requirement?

[Translation]

Hon. Marcel Lessard (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, consultation continues on that subject between the various departments here in Ottawa and particularly the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and when a decision will be made it will be announced by the departments that are responsible for the implementation of the program.

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[English]

POST OFFICE

METHOD USED BY MOUNTED POLICE TO INTERCEPT MAIL— KNOWLEDGE OF POSTAL OFFICIALS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General and it arises from statements he made to the press last week that