

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Comox-Alberni.

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FISHERIES

LOSSES SUFFERED BY ATLANTIC AREA FISHERMEN FROM STORM—SUGGESTED SPECIAL FEDERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Fisheries arises from representations I have received and which the minister has indicated he has received about the storm that seriously affected the fishermen of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and apparently Newfoundland. In light of the discussion we have had, is he prepared to recognize that, fisheries being under federal jurisdiction, a special program of assistance should be undertaken to assist those fishermen at his initiative?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member may recall, a special program of the nature of insurance for gear was instituted a few years ago. The fishermen, however, did not see fit to pay the premiums, and so we are back to the usual argument as to who pays for damage after a loss has occurred.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXPERIMENTAL STOREFRONT OFFICES—REQUEST THAT EVALUATION REPORTS BE SUPPLIED TO MEMBERS

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and relates to his press statement last week outside the House regarding storefront consumer offices. The minister's enthusiasm must mean, of course, that he has received the evaluation reports with regard to the experimental offices in Renfrew, Cornwall and Winnipeg. As the minister undertook to send those evaluation reports to the provincial ministers involved, will he also do members of this House who are interested in this subject the courtesy of sending them copies of those reports as well?

● (1500)

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall such a specific undertaking. I will check into it and try to do what is appropriate.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact the minister's picture appeared in this morning's *Globe and Mail* alongside that of the uninvited guest who barged into the chamber of the House of Com-

mons yesterday, does this signify that the minister is in accord with and approves of this action or is he condemning it?

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT OF CRIMINAL CODE TO INSTITUTE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR CERTAIN CRIMES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Dan Hollands (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. It deals with the brutal rape and robbery of a 70-year old woman in Edmonton last week. Since these subhuman acts are on the increase, will the minister consider bringing in amendments to the Criminal Code to institute some form of corporal punishment for such crimes as a deterrent to this type of criminal?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding our abhorrence of this kind of activity it is still our position, as it was the position of a very large majority in the House several years ago, that corporal punishment in our penal institutions is not a desirable remedy.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Frontenac-Lennox and Addington.

Mr. Alkenbrack: With your approval, Mr. Speaker, my question will take the form of a serious point of order after the question period is finished.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. We have gone five minutes beyond the end of the question period so we will hear the hon. member's point of order.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a serious point of order. It pertains to the question asked by the hon. member for Wellington and arises from the picture of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and from time to time Acting Prime Minister, and the illegal intruder upon the proceedings of the House yesterday that has appeared on the front pages of daily papers. This leaves the well-founded impression on the Canadian people that the minister and his party have no regard for the maintenance of order in the councils of the people.

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will appreciate that is not a point of order. I am not sure how he can justify making that statement on a point of order.

Mr. Alkenbrack: It indicates they have no regard—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should have regard for the ruling of the Chair. I suggest that is not a point of order. The hon. member may think he has a question of privilege, about which he might have given notice. He might have had a question and I was prepared to recognize him for that purpose. But it is hardly a point