

FISHERIES

POSSIBILITY OF MAKING FISHERMEN ELIGIBLE FOR
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN VIEW OF DELAY IN INCOME
SUPPORT PROGRAM

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): In view of the fact this has been going on for four or five years, will the Minister of State (Fisheries) undertake to discuss this matter with his colleague as soon as possible? I ask this because the government's promised income support policy program will not be implemented in the foreseeable future.

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of State (Fisheries)): Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member has misrepresented what I said the other day. I said that I hope within the next couple of months to be able to present my program to my colleagues and have discussions with the fishermen's organizations. In no way am I backing down from my promise and decision that there will be some income support program for fishermen.

Mr. Carter: Will the minister assure the House and the fishermen of this country that the program referred to will be working by the conclusion of the forthcoming season, say by next fall?

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): While agreeing with the hope that it will be in place by then, I will say this: we shall not bring a program forward before we and the fishermen are convinced that it is a visible improvement in terms of the stabilization of their income as compared with what exists now.

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[Translation]

NATIONAL CAPITAL

POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL
COMMISSION AND INCLUSION OF HULL IN CAPITAL REGION

Mr. Gaston Isabelle (Hull): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

In the future, the national capital area on the Quebec side, which is undoubtedly the most beautiful area in Quebec and which has been developed almost entirely by the National Capital Commission and the federal Department of Public Works, will be controlled and hampered in its development by a new agency recently set up by the provincial government, namely the "Direction générale de la Capitale nationale", under the guidance of an intergovernmental affairs official highly specialized in separatism. Given this fact, can the Prime Minister tell this House whether the Canadian government intends to abolish the National Capital Commission and perhaps to amend section 16 of the act to include Hull as an integral part of the National Capital of Canada?

Right. Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for bringing these facts to my attention. I can assure him that the government has absolutely no intention of abolishing the National Capital Commission. On the contrary, I share the view of the hon. member, namely that the commission did a tremendous

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job on both sides of the Ottawa River in the last few years, and we want this to continue. As to the other part of the question, Mr. Speaker, the Fullerton report will be submitted to a commission of this House. We are waiting for the reports of this commission. Personally, I trust entirely the participation of the hon. member for Hull and of the other hon. members for the area to ensure that a very good report will be brought forward in this House.

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[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

POSSIBILITY OF AMENDING SECTION 613 OF CRIMINAL CODE
IN VIEW OF DECISION IN MORGENTALER CASE

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the decision by the Court of Appeal in Quebec in the Morgentaler trial imposing a decision not only as to a matter of law but also as to a matter of fact in that case and the concern expressed this week by the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert as to the effect this might have on the jury system in this country, and in view of the Prime Minister's own legal background, will the Prime Minister advise us whether the answer given in this House on April 10 by the Minister of Justice that consideration would not be given to changing section 613 of the Criminal Code under which a court of Appeal may come to the conclusion it did is government policy.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Certainly a view expressed by the Minister of Justice in an area of his jurisdiction represented government policy at the time he expressed it. The suggestion itself, to my knowledge, has not been discussed in cabinet. If there is some reason to do so I will have a talk with my colleague and see if we want to bring it up in cabinet.

POSSIBILITY OF PARDON FOR DR. MORGENTALER—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): My supplementary concerns the same case in which the Crown elected to proceed by preferred indictment thereby avoiding a preliminary hearing, the uniqueness of this case being that the Supreme Court could find no legal precedent for the actions of the Quebec Court of Appeal. Would the Prime Minister also advise whether the view expressed by the Minister of Justice on the 10th that no consideration would be given to clemency or free pardon in the Morgentaler case also expressed the view of the government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The system allowing for preferred indictment has been in the Criminal Code for a very long time. The authority it gives to provincial attorneys general is one expressed by them in conditions foreseen under the law. I would be surprised if the hon. member is correct when he says that the Supreme Court made the point he said it did about this preferred indictment. It is a provision in the Code and it is there for a good reason. I do not know of any reason to take it out of the Code. If the hon. member has particular