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aspects of marine navigation and safety for shippers, fishermen, and recreational boaters alike.

On January 26, 1962, the Hon. Leon Balcer, Minister of Transport in the Diefenbaker Government, stated that the Department of Transport's fleet of ships would, from that day forward, be known as the Canadian Coast Guard. Today's Coast Guard has evolved considerably since then in keeping with time, technology and tradition in all facets of marine activity. This includes aids to navigation, coast guard radio stations, ice-breaking, eastern Arctic sealift, ship inspection, pleasure craft regulations, marine search and rescue, as well as public harbours and wharves. Indeed, Canada's maritime history, which predates Confederation with the first lighthouse at the Fortress of Louisbourg, now entails satellite-assisted vessel traffic services, and the like.

Our Coast Guard fleet is now comprised of some one hundred vessels ranging from the heavy gulf ice-breaker CCGS Louis S. St. Laurent to inflatable inshore rescue boats. There is much enthusiasm for the proposed Polar 8 ice-breaker which will continue the Coast Guard legacy of quiet pride and service for the benefit of all mariners and, of course, fly with pride the Maple Leaf in the Canadian high Arctic. I take great pleasure in honouring the Canadian Coast Guard on this milestone, on behalf of the Minister, and all Members of the House. I trust that all Members will feel likewise with respect to its plans, missions, and aspirations for the future.

## FISHERIES

LICENCES GRANTED TO FRENCH FACTORY FREEZER TRAWLERS

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, last year Canadian fishermen were outraged to hear that French trawlers had caught 26,000 tonnes of fish, more than four times their quota. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Siddon) has now issued licences to nine French factory freezer trawlers to conduct an open season on Canadian fisheries.

The Minister should know that one factory freezer trawler can catch up to 12,000 tonnes. The Minister has stated that the quota of 6,400 tonnes remains. This is complete and utter nonsense. The Canadian Government will not even be monitoring these trawlers.

• (1405)

Canadian fishermen are horrified. They cannot understand why the Minister is constantly giving in to the demands of the French trawler fleet. On behalf of my colleagues and Atlantic fishermen, I demand that the Minister reverse this bizarre decision and cancel these licences forthwith.

## VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES

TRIBUTE TO SERVICES ON OCCASION OF NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. John Oostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to the attention of the House, during national VON Week, the contribution that VON Canada has made to the development of health services in our country. This year the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada is celebrating 90 years of caring for Canadians.

Since its earliest days VON has pioneered the development of health services. Today a network of 72 branches across the country provides a range of health services designed to meet needs of local communities. VON believes that everyone has the right to comprehensive and compassionate health care. This includes a commitment to enabling people to maintain their independence and to remain in their communities and homes near family and friends.

Last year VON nurses provided over 2.8 million nursing visits to 127,000 people. Some 14,000 others received adult day care, volunteer visiting, meals-on-wheels, homemaker services, and educational preparation for expectant couples.

VON also believes that increasing the knowledge and expertise of staff, evaluation of existing services, the development of new programs and research projects directed toward finding new and better ways to care for people, are essential to ensure that VON continues to respond effectively to the changing health needs of Canadians.

[Translation]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Mr. Robert Toupin (Terrebonne): Mr. Speaker, the comment which the Hon. Member for Kitchener (Mr. Reimer) is reported to have made to the effect that cronyism, backroom deals and bribes are generalized and part of the accepted political mores in the province of Quebec is false and injurious to all Quebec men and women and their elected representatives.

If the Hon. Member for Kitchener wanted to improve the image of Conservative Governments in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada, he did not choose the most appropriate way.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member is well aware that it is customary in the House, when making references to other Hon. Members reflecting on their character, or even imputing motives to them, to do so with the utmost caution. I suggest the Hon. Member's remarks might be more appropriate elsewhere.