

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, we are presently studying those questions, and as soon as the new department is established, we will take decisions on that matter.

[English]

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the department also make public any plans it has for various sectors of responsibility based on recommendations of the Atlantic Development Board, in order that the work of the new department may be effectively evaluated?

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, those projects have already been drawn to the department's attention. We will study them and decide what to do about them as soon as the department is established.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ANGUILLA—CANADIAN POSITION ON
BRITISH ACTION**

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Aithabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Will he state at this time, or on motions later, what position Canada has taken on the apparent invasion of the island of Anguilla by Britain?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we have taken no position.

Mr. Stanfield: That is the usual position.

Mr. Benson: The usual position of the opposition.

CANADA LABOUR (SAFETY) CODE**PROMULGATION OF RAILWAY REGULATIONS**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Labour. On Thursday of last week I asked him if he could say when the regulations under the Canada Labour (Safety) Code for the railway industry would be promulgated? Since it was not possible for him to reply on Monday I trust he is in a position to reply today.

Hon. Bryce S. Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether the answer will satisfy the hon. member. As

a result of his question I asked the department to give me a complete report. It is so complete that it runs to seven pages, and to read it I should have to ask unanimous consent of the house to revert to motions. I assure the hon. gentleman that rapid progress is being made in this field. I have asked the department to discuss the possibility of expanding staff in order that we may proceed more effectively. We anticipate that the entire regulations of the code will be completed within the year.

[Translation]

BANKRUPTCY**SHARING OF LOSS THROUGH INSURANCE
PROCEDURES**

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, of which I have already given notice.

In view of the large increase in the number of failures in the commercial field, which also cause many failures in industry, involving small and average businesses mostly, would the hon. minister consider establishing a shared-cost insurance plan similar to crop insurance for farmers, to protect industry and the governments?

[English]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker. The provisions of the Bankruptcy Act are now being studied by a special advisory committee. I hope to have their report this year at which time we will be introducing a revision of the Bankruptcy Act. I doubt that the committee will recommend a creditor's insurance scheme similar to crop insurance.

FISHERIES**SEALS—REQUEST FOR REASONS FOR
CANCELLATION**

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the considerable disagreement which seems to exist regarding the actual number of seals in the northern area close to Prince Edward Island and the loss of income to fishermen in that area, is the minister prepared to make a statement to the house tomorrow indicating in some detail the exact reasons for which the hunt has been cancelled? Would he also provide the exact number of seals located in that area?