

Questions

following matters and to report to the House such proposals as the committee may deem advisable:

1. The Canada Elections Act, exclusive of Sections 62 and 63;

2. The report of the Representation Commissioner on methods of registration of electors and absentee voting, 1968, made pursuant to Section 9 of the Representation Commissioner Act;

And that the evidence adduced by the committee in its study of the aforementioned items during the first session of the twenty-eighth Parliament be referred to the committee.

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to section 2 of Standing Order 21 this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

#### DRB INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

Question No. 21—**Mr. Broadbent:**

For the fiscal year 1968-69 and the current fiscal year up to September 1969, what has been the number of projects, the forecasted federal government expenditures and the actual government expenditures for the Defence Research Board's Defence Industrial Research Program?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** 1. 1968-69: Number of active projects, 101; Forecast expenditures, \$4,500,000; Actual expenditures, \$4,299,853.

1969-70: Number of active projects, 89; Forecast expenditures (complete fiscal year), \$4,500,000; Actual expenditure, \$1,162,442.

#### SINGLE-MAIL PROCESSING SYSTEM

Question No. 69—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. For what period of time was the single-mail processing system in effect in the post office?

2. What is the estimated cost of introducing the single-mail processing system in the post office and then reverting back to the original system?

**Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications):** 1. The system was implemented on February 17, 1969.

2. There was no cost to introducing this system which is still in operation. No consideration is being given at this time to reverting back to the former system.

[Mr. Speaker.]

#### INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF TROUT

Question No. 85—**Mr. Harding:**

Has the Department of Fisheries and Forestry undertaken an investigation of the thousands of dead trout fish along a four-mile stretch of the Sable River on the south coast of Prince Edward Island and, if so what are the results of this investigation?

**Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry):** Yes. Fish kill was detected almost immediately on August 25, 1969, by patrol officers in the DeSable River. Some flounders were killed in the tidal portion of the stream and several thousand speckled trout above in the size range 1½" to 12". This is a small stream of average width of eight feet and depth of two feet, infrequently visited by anglers. The source of the kill was located about four and a half miles upstream.

This source was pollution emanating from emptied agricultural pesticide bags and containers, including DDT. Aquatic life in the stream was normal above this point for the remaining several miles.

Water is taken from the stream in the vicinity of the source of pollution for use in spraying equipment by a number of farms. An intensive investigation failed to provide the identity of the person responsible for the violation. The Department is conducting a very comprehensive program with a view of stamping out the release in streams of these deleterious materials related to agricultural activities.

#### STUDIES BY PROFESSOR WARNER

Question No. 87—**Mr. Thomson:**

1. What studies by Professor R. E. Warner have been sponsored by the Fisheries Board of Canada?

2. What are the general results of these studies on the subject of the environmental effects of oil pollution in Canada?

**Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry):** 1. The Fisheries Research Board of Canada has been involved in a minor way in paying Professor R. E. Warner's travel expenses to the Arctic to examine the scene where an oil barge was crushed and sunk near Melville Island.

2. Professor Warner was unable to locate the oil slick in flights over the scene. His account points out (a) the need to maintain contact with the spill in Arctic conditions, (b) the need for practical guidelines to deal with such spills and (c) the need for co-ordination of efforts by an appropriate body.