

Oral Questions

[English]

EXTENDED WARRANTIES ON MOTOR VEHICLES—
GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ENFORCE

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that over the last three months it has been brought to the attention of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs that the major motor car companies did offer extended warranties, which were kept secret, in respect of certain qualitative defects on certain models in the years from 1969 to 1973, and in view of the fact that in July the minister told this House he would ask these motor car companies to co-operate with his department in order to make sure the consumers would get the benefits of these extended warranties and have their cars fixed at the companies' expense, and bearing in mind that these companies have dragged their feet in co-operating with the department and the government, will the minister now tell the House what steps his department intends to take in view of this feet dragging by the car manufacturers?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, first, my department established a special work force that coordinates its activities and investigates complaints made by consumers. Second, meetings are taking place with representatives of the automobile industry and I can assure the hon. member that my department follows up thoroughly any inquiry filed by consumers. Moreover, the Automobile Protection Association also makes representations on behalf of consumers and submits complaints to the court when necessary.

[English]

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OLYMPIC GAMES

POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AID
FINANCING—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE FEDERAL COSTS
WILL NOT INCREASE

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, last week the President of the Treasury Board stated in this House that further legislation to assist the financing of the trouble-plagued Olympics will not be introduced at this time. Can it be assumed, therefore, that such legislation is in fact being considered for some other time in the future and, if not, can he assure us that no further legislation in fact will be introduced at this or at any other time?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is no. I do not have to comment on the second.

[English]

Mr. Jelinek: Mr. Speaker, because of the fact that original cost estimates for the Olympic Games, as we know, have more than tripled, primarily due to the mismanagement of COJO and city of Montreal officials, will the

[Mr. Ouellet.]

President of the Treasury Board assure this House that direct federal costs, and I am referring to security, immigration, CBC and others, will not increase from their original estimates as well?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I do not think that the anticipated cost of the federal services which are to be made available for the Olympic Games have increased in a way which may be compared to the higher outlays mentioned in connection with the development of the olympic site itself and if there is an increase it is marginal.

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FISHERIES

NUMBER OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON FISHING ZONES—
DEFINITION OF FISHING ZONE

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Minister of State (Fisheries).

I want him to refer to my questions of last week concerning the bilateral agreements on territorial waters. With how many countries, besides Norway, does the minister hope to conclude bilateral agreements and has a schedule for such negotiations been established?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of State, Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, as far as I remember, I can list Spain, Portugal, Poland and the USSR; preliminary discussions are being held with Japan. The first round of talks with the United States did take place. As for the schedule, we have some problems in coordinating dates. We believe that the negotiations with all those countries will be initiated before mid-January.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Has the minister now turned from multilateral to bilateral negotiations?

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): Not at all, Mr. Speaker, but I must remind the hon. member that, unilateral or multilateral, the extension of the jurisdiction will require bilateral negotiations with the countries which have been fishing off the Canadian coasts.

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[English]

CANADIAN EGG MARKETING AGENCY

REASON FOR RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN, MR. WORSDALE

Mr. Frank Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, last Friday the Acting Prime Minister stated he was unaware of the resignation of Mr. Worsdale, chairman of CEMA. Could the Minister of Agriculture now confirm whether Mr. Worsdale has resigned and, if so, for what reasons?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I know he has resigned, but I have not been