Inquiries of the Ministry

POWER

FUNDY TIDES—INQUIRY AS TO PUBLICATION OF FINDINGS OF STUDY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of importance to Atlantic Canada to address to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Will the findings of the study of the economic feasibility of using Fundy Bay tidal power to generate electricity be made public? If so, will this information be made available before the present parliament is dissolved?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the body to which the hon. member refers was appointed only the other day; I think it will be meeting in the next several weeks to plan its program of work. It is difficult at this point to indicate how soon it will be in a position to report, and what it will have to say on the question. I would expect that the report would be of such general importance to the three governments concerned that the findings would be made public.

SHIPPING

INVESTIGATION INTO SINKING OF TUGBOAT, "HARO STRAITS"

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. The other day my hon. friend from Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands asked the minister about an investigation into the sinking of the Haro Straits in British Columbia waters. The minister told us at that time that adverse weather conditions had hampered the investigation somewhat and that the vessel was still tied up to the tow. Can the minister inform us whether this is still the case, and what course the investigation has taken to date? Can he also say whether any attempt will be made to refloat the Haro Straits? I am tempted to ask also about the port authority for Prince Rupert—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps we might deal with the one matter and do so as quickly as possible because we are running short of time.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): With regard to the tug incident, the hon. member probably knows that a submersible has spotted the vessel. The work has been interrupted a good deal in recent days by bad weather. The on-the-spot investigation is not complete or, at least, it was not complete as of yesterday. Perhaps I am getting a little ahead of the normal procedure, but I would suspect that in this case we would first of all attempt to raise the vessel if that should be feasible. I also have very little doubt that the vessels of the preliminary inquiry will lead me to call for a normal inquiry.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN—MEASURES TO ESTABLISH PRICE PARITY
BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN CANADA

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board.

Since a number of organizations on several occasions last fall urged the minister to consider the possibility of taking steps to enable eastern producers to pay the same price as western producers for their feed grain, I would like to ask him whether he has taken a decision about those requests and whether he is in a position to say when he will make a statement to that effect?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, studies are continuing with respect to the question of dealing with the problem of wide discrepancies in feed grain prices as between different regions. I do not have anything further to report at this time. It is true, however, that in the current situation feed grain prices in the prairie region have strengthened significantly, and I believe that with the announcement of an increase of five cents in the initial price for barley for next year, and with the very high level of exports this trend will continue. As a result, there is no immediate problem. The old problem was related to distress pricing and practices, and that has been solved by the very rapid movement of grain into export—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

TRANSPORT

POSITION OF DISCUSSIONS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF GO-TYPE RAIL SERVICE NORTH AND NORTHWEST OF TORONTO

Mr. Rud L. Whiting (Halton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Can the minister inform the House as to the present status of the discussions which are taking place between Canadian National Railways, the federal government and the province of Ontario with respect to establishing GO-type transit service north and northwest of the city of Toronto?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the discussions are going extremely well. The last word I had of them was yesterday evening. The estimate of all three levels of government involved is that the report will probably be completed in May.

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—INVESTIGATION OF GRANT TO SCENE AFTER SCENE FREE THEATRE

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration. On March 6 the minister informed us