

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If that is the only thing the hon. member wishes to ask, his first question is unacceptable.

Mr. Groos: Then may I rephrase my question and ask the minister whether there is any doubt that the closure of salmon fishing in area 19 and part of area 20 in the straits of Juan de Fuca is still in fact to take place, in view of the representations he has received from the commercial, sports and wildlife preservation societies in British Columbia?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I did receive a telegram from the sports organization claiming that the closure of the areas mentioned does not go far enough. I also received a telegram from the fisheries association stating that it is going too far, so I can say there is a conflict between the two groups. The matter is under consideration at the present time.

[Later:]

Mr. G. L. Chatterton (Esquimalt-Saanich): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries apropos the question asked by the hon. member for Victoria (B.C.) with regard to the apparent conflict between net fishermen, troll fishermen and sports fishermen. Will the minister refer this matter to the fisheries committee so they may go out to the Pacific coast and hear evidence from these groups with a view to finding an equitable division of the resources?

[Translation]

EXPO '67**REPORTED UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS
OF ASSOCIATED FIRMS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Further to the charges made by Mr. Claude Wagner, a member of the Quebec legislative assembly that the Mafia has infiltrated the world's fair is the minister prepared to get in touch with his colleague responsible for Expo in order to check the truth of these statements and recommend that the necessary steps be taken by whoever may be concerned?

Mr. Speaker: Order. It seems to me that the hon. member is repeating a question that has already been asked.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

[Mr. Groos.]

Mr. Speaker: There can be no supplementary question, the first question having been ruled out of order.

Mr. Grégoire: In that case, another question on the same subject, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I have already recognized the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Mather).

[English]

CANADIAN CENTENNIAL**INVITATION TO U.S. PRESIDENT TO ATTEND
CEREMONIES IN OTTAWA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, if I may I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister say whether his attention has been called to news reports to the effect that President Johnson of the United States has so far failed to acknowledge Canada's invitation to him to attend centennial ceremonies in the national capital? If these reports have been drawn to the attention of the Prime Minister, does he propose to make a statement on this matter?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the President has indeed acknowledged our invitation and has expressed the hope and expectation of visiting Canada and Expo during our centennial year. Two dates were put forward. One was the latter part of May—I think it was May 25 that he would arrive—and I think the other was toward the end of July or August. I have not the exact dates in mind. It had been hoped he would be able to accept the earlier date, but I understand that is not now possible and we expect him to be here on the later date.

TRANSPORTATION**MARITIME PROVINCES—INQUIRY AS TO
LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Because of the thunderous silence of the throne speech on this point, would the Minister of Transport assure that legislation relating to maritime transportation will be dealt with in this centennial session?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): I could not possibly give such an assurance, Mr. Speaker. It would be very presumptuous on my part to say what this house would deal with.