

*Oral Questions***CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY****ABOLITION OF PENSIONERS' RAIL PASSES—LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD RULING**

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. As the Minister knows, the Canada Labour Relations Board has ruled that CP Rail broke the law when it arbitrarily abolished rail passenger train passes for its pensioners. In view of this ruling, what action is the Government able to take to make CP Rail comply with its legal and moral obligations to its pensioners?

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the ruling of the Canada Labour Relations Board did not make any recommendation as to actions or remedies toward the company. What the ruling does is that it enables the bargaining unit on behalf of the pensioners to bring that question to the bargaining table. I am sure, knowing the interest of the representatives within the unions and their concern about the pensioners, a concern the Hon. Member has, and I also have, it will be a point of negotiation between the two parties.

PROTECTION OF RAILWAY PENSIONERS

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): The Minister has pointed exactly to the problem. CP Rail argues that the pensioners cannot be represented at the bargaining table. I want to ask the Minister can he suggest what action the Government can take with the support of Parliament to protect the retirement package of those 27,000 CP pensioners who depend on this small privilege as a part of the retirement deal that was negotiated for them in the past.

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated to the Hon. Member that the representatives, through their bargaining unit, and the former employees who were members of that bargaining unit, have been recognized by the Canada Labour Relations Board to be able to have that issue negotiated between the two parties. I do not think it would be incumbent upon the Parliament of Canada to interfere between negotiations that are now legitimate on this point which impacts upon pensioners in Canada.

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ENERGY**PETRO-CANADA'S GASOLINE PRICING PRACTICES**

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): I have a question directed to the Minister of Finance which relates to an earlier answer he gave to the House. I suggest he misinformed the House—I am not saying deliberately—but I would like him to comment. Considering a report issued by the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission just last month points out the following with reference to the testimony of the Chairman of Petro-Canada: "Even more telling was his frank admission that Petro-Canada, despite becoming the largest refiner-marketer

in Canada, would continue to be a passive price follower." In other words, Petro-Canada—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is not a lead question. Just a question, please.

Mr. Broadbent: Will the Minister tell the House where he gets this information when he says to the people of Canada Petro-Canada is leading the petroleum companies in bringing prices down when this report says the opposite?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member reads the "blues" he will see I was referring to comments by people in my riding, by service station owners who were complaining about the pricing practices of Petro-Canada. That is the sum and total of the statement that I made in the response to the earlier question.

REQUEST THAT PETRO-CANADA BE INSTRUCTED TO REDUCE PRICES

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): I have a supplementary directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources I would like to ask the Minister, since she is given the authority in the Petro-Canada Act to instruct Petro-Canada to bring prices down if it is government policy, will she now act to save Canadian consumers some \$8.5 million a day by instructing Petro-Canada to set an example and lower gasoline prices?

● (1500)

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member knows, we have asked Petro-Canada to act as a commercial operation in the private sector, as he referred to in his report. Petro-Canada is not a leader in gas-pricing policies, it is usually a follower. It would be detrimental to the company's interest on behalf of Canadians, because we own it, to give it that kind of direction.

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CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORTS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Tuesday, January 21, 1986, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

Order, please. I am in receipt of notices of a question of privilege and a point of order. I will deal with the question of privilege first.

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PRIVILEGE**ALLEGED UNPARLIAMENTARY TERM USED IN QUESTION PERIOD**

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I realize that many comments are made in the heat of debate. However,