

corporations. I asked what the government would do to stop this profiteering. What other evidence does he require that it is taking place in view of the range of profit increases?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I look to the ultimate purpose of the economy and the ultimate purpose of profits to be the expanding of the industrial base of the country. That is happening, and the ultimate purpose is jobs. I think the hon. member and I can agree on that.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

DAIRYING—FORMULATION OF NEW POLICY IN LIGHT OF PRODUCERS' REQUESTS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture.

Since a member refused a few moments ago the unanimous consent required by Standing Order 43 for the debate of the serious problem of dairy producers, may I ask the minister whether he is aware of the representations of industrial milk producers and, if so, will he give them serious consideration in preparing the dairy production policy for the next year, beginning April 1, 1974?

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): I answered similar questions put to me by one or two hon. members along the lines that I had to make an announcement in connection with dairy policy by April 1. And we shall do this. We are taking all representations into consideration.

[Translation]

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member for York South rising on a point of order?

Mr. Lewis: No, Mr. Speaker. It is not unusual for a first questioner to ask two supplementary questions rather than one, and I hope to get that opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member was a little slow in rising for the second supplementary.

[Translation]

The hon. member will excuse me.

In the meantime, I had recognized the hon. member for Bellechasse; maybe we can go on with the supplementaries later on, if in fact there are supplementaries to the first question, the one asked by the hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

Of course, we will afterwards come back to the hon. member for York South, but for now the hon. member for Bellechasse has the floor.

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Oral Questions

In view of the importance of the matter and the concern prevailing at this time along industrial milk producers, could the minister tell us, whether the application for a net reimbursement of the increased \$2 for a hundred pounds, and I emphasize on the word "net", to the producers will be included in the government dairy policy for the year 1974-75?

[English]

Mr. Whelan: I said it was being considered.

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TRANSPORT

ACTION TO SEPARATE AIR CANADA AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS—PROVISION OF COST INFORMATION BY RAILWAYS

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary to the Minister of Transport. In light of the minister's straightforward statement in the House on March 7 about his lack of a transport policy, I should like to ask him whether he is now prepared to bring forward legislation in connection with the Railway Act and the National Transportation Act, and measures to separate Air Canada from the CNR, which his predecessor promised two years ago, stating at that time he would do it soon?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): If the purpose of the question is to find out whether we intend to split Air Canada from Canadian National, I can tell the hon. member that no decision has yet been made.

Mr. MacKay: With respect, that was part of the purpose of the question. Can the minister inform the House whether he or his colleagues have received any cost disclosure information from the railways respecting the freight rate charges on the 28 commodities specified at the Western Economic Opportunities Conference in July, 1973, and, if not, when this information may be forthcoming?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think it is about to be received. I do not recall the exact number of cost disclosures we asked of the CTC but we expect to receive them very shortly. The western ministers are quite satisfied with the delays that we know are necessary in these cases.

● (1430)

Mr. MacKay: Would the minister indicate, in view of the fact he said that he has little control over the operations of the railways and in view of the fact that the railways are so heavily subsidized, particularly the CNR, whether he would consider, in order to assert his authority, reducing or holding back some of the estimates until he has received the cost disclosure information so long withheld by the railways?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I think that for the time being we have a satisfactory arrangement with both railways concerning cost disclosure. That is not an understatement; I think it is true. We are ready to go further if the present arrangement does not work. As far as the use of subsidies is concerned, I know this is a very