Oral Questions

TRANSPORT

POSSIBLE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO TRUCKING INDUSTRY AS RESULT OF FREIGHT RATE FREEZE—DATE OF DECISION

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, on May 23 I asked the Minister of Transport whether the government had finalized a decision in respect of the payment of compensation to the trucking industry for the losses which were incurred as the result of the imposition of the railway freight freeze. He indicated that the matter was going before Cabinet very rapidly, and I wonder if he is now in a position to give an indication to the House whether a payment is to be made to the trucking industry and, if so, in what amount?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is on its way to the proper committee.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the Canadian Trucking Association is holding its annual conference in Calgary on June 13, would the minister indicate whether a decision will be announced before that date?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I cannot give any promise, Mr. Speaker. This has to go to the committee and then to the Cabinet. I cannot tell the hon. member at what moment the Cabinet is going to decide something.

[Translation]

OLYMPIC GAMES

THE POSSIBILITY OF ISSUING GOLD COINS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the President of the Treasury Board, I would like to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Last Friday, answering one of my colleagues, the President of the Treasury Board stated:

The government is considering the requests of COJO to find procedures to increase revenues. As soon as the decision of the cabinet is taken, we will probably be introducing legislation in the House in the near future.

Given that answer may I ask the right hon. Prime Minister if the government is trying to establish a new way of financing, and if so what measure does the government intend to bring forward in the House to help the Olympic Games?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to answer that question. I will very gladly take notice of it and get in touch with the President of the Treasury Board.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

[English]

IMMIGRATION

DATE OF DECISION ON WHETHER GENERAL QUANG ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN CANADA

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, could the Minister of Manpower and Immigration confirm that he has received the information from the United States authorities relating to General Quang's activities, and is he now in a position to tell the House whether General Quang will be allowed to remain in Canada, particularly since he has had this information for several days?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we are continuing to compile and analyze the information on General Quang. As I have said previously, there are many potentially legal complexities in this case which do not lend themselves to a simple and easy decision, but I expect to make one very shortly.

ENERGY

OIL—POSSIBLE PRICE ADJUSTMENT IN VIEW OF REDUCTION IN EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, given the fact that the apparent volume of exports of oil to the United States is falling below the amount approved, could the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources indicate whether the government is exploring a series of adjustments in the price so the market will be cleared?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman may recall that the National Energy Board recommended a price adjustment last month, which is a clear anticipation that there will be a slight increase in the volume of exports. I think one can say that the volume of exports has been affected as much by the rather soft market for crude oil in the United States during this period, not unrelated to the performance of the United States economy.

FINANCE

EFFECT OF DECLINE IN EXPORTS OF OIL TO UNITED STATES ON FUND TO EQUALIZE PRICES

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. Can he tell us in rough proportions how the decline in exports of oil to the United States is affecting the draw down in the general revenue fund as it relates to the equalization program for oil prices across Canada? Can he just give rough figures?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): It is throwing that account into deficit.