

Oral Questions

NABET employees, and that the number of in-house hours of production would not be diminished. If the hon. member has other points he would like me to bring to the attention of the president of the CBC, I would be more than pleased to do so.

BROADCASTING OF SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN JULY

Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody): Madam Speaker, turning back to the coverage of the July summit, the minister knows that only the CBC has enough technicians to act as host broadcaster. However, the minister should know that as host broadcaster contingency plans include the use of the CTV technicians, that strike-breaking is forbidden in the CTV-NABET contract, and also that the technicians and broadcasters and similar supportive unions from the U.S., British and European networks will support the CBC-NABET strike at the summit.

Since the Minister of Labour's own conciliator has already supported NABET's position on jurisdictional matters and has supported the NABET stand, will the minister use every reasonable means to achieve a fair and just settlement in the weeks to come?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Francis Fox (Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): Madam Speaker, obviously the role of the CBC is to negotiate with the union, and the chairman of the present CBC is, of course, interested in achieving a reasonable and just settlement for all parties concerned. It is quite obvious that all of us in this House and all the people in the country would like to see the strike settled as soon as possible. There are matters of importance at issue. Hopefully, as a result of the ongoing negotiations which I trust will proceed at a brisk pace, we will be able to have the strike settled before the summit is held.

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AIRPORTS

FUTURE OF PICKERING PROJECT

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. I hope I get some better answers from him than my colleagues have this morning.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Fennell: Madam Speaker, I have in my riding one of the great disasters of federal policies in this decade.

Some hon. Members: You are!

Mr. Fennell: No, no. The government has left a disaster of 18,000 acres.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Fennell: This has left the people in the riding in a state of anxiety. It is similar to T. S. Eliot's "Wasteland". The minister's predecessor, in four months, came up with a policy on that land. That is the Pickering—question mark—airport. This minister has had 16 months to do something about this. Would the minister please present to this House a long-term program of what he will do with the illconceived Pickering airport?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, this will be done in the early days of next week.

• (1130)

LEASING OF EXPROPRIATED LAND

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Madam Speaker, we heard that around the middle of May. I should like to make a small suggestion in a brief supplementary question. Would the minister consider putting this land into long-term lease and encouraging young farmers—at least looking after part of the agricultural community—allowing them to lease this land and also putting the minds of all my constituents at ease?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, this is exactly the purpose of what I am going to announce next week. I do not know if I can put all the electors of the hon. member at peace because they may have other reasons to be troubled. As far as rental duration is concerned, however, they should be at peace next week.

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PENITENTIARIES

RIOTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTIONS—REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. In answer to my question in the House on June 8 the minister stated that he had no intention of referring the matter of the recent prison riots in B.C. which, I might say, now involves three institutions, to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Outside the House on the same day, the minister apparently told the media that he was considering a reference to the committee. May I ask the minister if we can expect a reference in this particular matter in order to try to get to the root of the problem as far as the institutions are concerned?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, I am not contemplating suggesting that the matter be referred to the justice committee. I do not as yet have the reports of the special inquiries that are being conducted into those three incidents. When I have the reports, I believe that the necessary action can be taken within the mandate that the Correctional Service of Canada already has. If issues of a policy nature arise of the sort that the justice committee might want to turn to, that would be a possible course of action. I really do