

endeavour on the part of the government of Canada to force action by the United States for what they require? Are Canadians not entitled to more consideration than that?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think that Canadians deserve consideration. I believe the right hon. gentleman will agree with me that if we have a national airline here, which is important, we should protect it against unfair competition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: If the minister means to imply by that that he places corporation requirements ahead of human needs, surely he is not that hard toward the people of Canada, or is he?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I know the right hon. gentleman is very sensitive and probably would like to help the American airlines, but at this moment I think it is the Canadian airline which should be protected.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is nonsense.

* * *

AIRPORTS

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL—INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE SECRET TESTS RELATED TO NEW RUNWAY

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that a few weeks ago the Department of Transport almost exulted over the fact that tests had been taking place unknown to the public with respect to STOL aircraft and that these tests showed that in fact people were not complaining about the noise, may I have the minister's assurance that no similar tests are taking place at the Vancouver airport relating to the new proposed runway at that airport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is something surprising there. Surely, the new runway cannot be used because it has not yet been built.

Mr. Fraser: The department might try even that.

Mr. Trudeau: And you will be the first passenger.

Mr. Fraser: My question to the Minister of Transport is quite simple. Are any tests being done now, the results of which will be brought forward later with the suggestion by the Department of Transport that they took these planes on exactly the same route as the new runway would require and nobody complained? I am sure the minister knows exactly what I am getting at.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Unfortunately, the problem now at the Vancouver airport is the problem of the new runway. I really do not know whether there are some

Oral Questions

Twin Otters which land on the runway at present, but I can inquire. I do not know of any regulations that would prevent Twin Otters from landing anywhere in Canada.

Mr. Fraser: Can the minister assure the House that no secret runs are being made by aircraft to simulate the patterns that would be required if the new runway were built with a view to bringing out this fact later and saying to the people: You did not complain when we were carrying out these secret tests?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): If it is so secret that nobody notices it, I do not think it is a successful experiment. However, I will inquire and make a report.

Mr. Baldwin: Ask Turner. He's the minister of simulation.

* * *

HEALTH

MEDICARE—ALLEGED RECOMMENDATION OF COUNCIL OF HEALTH TO LIMIT AVAILABILITY OF INSURED SERVICES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the federal government's failure to buy itself out of the responsibility of health care costs, is the minister aware of the recommendation being made by a committee appointed by the Council of Health which would limit the quality and availability of insured medical services?

● (1550)

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of a report in Ontario limiting the quantity of services. I am not sure it is the right conclusion to say it would limit the quality of such services. I will look into this particular report. I am aware of it only through press reports, and I want to make sure that such proposals would meet the four basic criteria for federal financing of health services.

MEDICARE—POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ACUPUNCTURE IN INSURED SERVICES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he is going to include acupuncture in insured medical services?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think it is too early to give an answer to that particular question. I will give an answer later.