

*Oral Questions*BREAD AND MILK SUBSIDIES—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION
TO YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the action announced by the Prime Minister two weeks ago yesterday with regard to subsidies on bread and milk and the announcement by the Minister of Agriculture concerning the cost of milk to residents of the province of Quebec, reducing milk to 34 cents a quart in that province by reason of his announcement, the minister will recall that I drew his attention to the fact that there were no marketing boards in either the Yukon Territory or the Northwest Territories and that he replied that his department had that matter under consideration. Can he now inform the House, in respect of northerners above the 60th parallel, whether he who has direct responsibility in these areas will pass along the same kind of benefits to these residents as have been provided for the residents of the province of Quebec by measures such as those announced by the Minister of Agriculture?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have already contacted my colleague the Minister of Agriculture in this regard. Of course, this is a very complex matter, as there is no marketing board in the Yukon nor in the Northwest Territories, but the consumers in these regions will derive the same benefits as those who live in the southern provinces, where farm products come from.

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[English]

TRANSPORT

MEASURES TO CLEAR UP BACKLOG OF FREIGHT CARS AT
NORTH SYDNEY DESTINED FOR NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Bearing in mind the circumstances at North Sydney where the shipment of goods and produce to supply Newfoundland will be delayed until after Christmas and also involving orders now being placed for the spring of 1974, now that the minister has had time to study the situation at North Sydney can he indicate what plans he has in mind and what contingency plan he has devised in order to alleviate that situation?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think this situation is being studied by the department. Are you talking about the backlog there is now at Sydney?

Mr. Lundrigan: Yes.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): May I say that since yesterday I have received a full report from Canadian National. I think it is unjust for the CNR to leave the public under the impression that nothing was done when I know now for sure that, since July, 11 vessels have been chartered by CN to cut down the backlog. There is no backlog of

[Mr. Trudeau.]

perishable goods and by two weeks we think everything will be in normal shape.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if it is in order in the House to accuse the CN of lying. I cannot accuse the minister of lying, but somebody obviously is telling a bloody lie. In view of the fact that for over a month prior to the CN strike there was no produce moving into the province of Newfoundland from Montreal by way of the private enterprise system, in view of the fact that since the first day of the rotating strikes the province, to all intents and purposes, was in the grip of a total strike because of the strikes centred in Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic region, and in view of the admission of Canadian National Railways yesterday that over 600 cars are at present sitting in North Sydney, as well as the indications from the general public—

● (1500)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might ask the question. It seems to me that his preamble is a little extensive.

Mr. Lundrigan: And in view of indications from the general public that there are firms on the northeastern coast of the province that have not received—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Lundrigan: Listen to what I am saying.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am inviting the hon. member to ask his question.

Mr. Lundrigan: I would have asked my question by now if there had not been so many interruptions. I would have been finished long ago—and in view of the fact there are firms that have not received goods that were ordered two months ago, goods that have been in place in North Sydney for two months, can the minister give an assurance that extra vessels will be placed in position immediately in order to clear up the backlog and, further, that he will study the constitutional responsibilities under Term 32 of the Terms of Union?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. Perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply to the hon. member's lengthy question.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I know that you will not allow me to prove it, Mr. Speaker, but when the hon. member says that it is a bunch of lies I want to tell him that I have all the names of the vessels here and I can give them to the House. If the hon. member knows a charter that can be rented in order to speed up the movement of goods, we will be pleased to rent the vessel any time. A real effort has been made.

An hon. Member: What about Jack Davis?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Some of the goods that are delayed are not perishable. There have been delays at Sydney before and that is why we have ordered a new