

**Mr. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio):** Mr. Speaker, any consideration in respect of federal assistance for mass transit would involve many departments of the government, most particularly the Department of Transport. All I can say is that the whole question of urban problems, as I indicated a few minutes ago, including mass transit and many other factors, will be a subject of discussion and consultation and, ultimately, decision. There is no precise legislative program now that directly involves the federal government in financial participation for mass transit.

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### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

#### FOREIGN OWNERSHIP—POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT SUBSEQUENT TO TAX CHANGES

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, in light of the right hon. gentleman's answer to my question yesterday about the whole matter of foreign ownership and the enunciation of policy, I would be helped if the Prime Minister would say whether it is now the situation that tax reforms, for instance, as part of the budget, will be introduced prior to any policy announcement on foreign ownership?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, that is likely the sequence in which they will be presented to the House.

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### TRANSPORT

#### SPECIAL FREIGHT RATE ASSISTANCE TO MARITIME SHIPPERS TO REPLACE STATUTORY SUBSIDY

**Mr. Charles H. Thomas (Moncton):** Mr. Speaker, I directed a question to the Minister of Transport on March 26 inquiring whether the government was taking any action on a federal-provincial recommendation in respect of special assistance in the form of subsidies. At that time the parliamentary secretary said the department was considering this and would probably announce something soon. Has a program for special assistance been drawn up and, if so, when will the minister announce it?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I always have difficulty with this kind of question because there is special assistance of one type or another being extended on an ad hoc basis on a more or less day to day basis. In so far as consultations with the provinces are concerned, these are continuing. Within the last two or three days there have been consultations with the province of New Brunswick on one aspect of transport. If the hon. member has some specific form of assistance in which he is interested, I will do my best to answer his inquiry.

### Inquiries of the Ministry

#### FINANCE

##### STORAGE OF COMPUTER DATA ON ECONOMY IN UNITED STATES DATA BANKS—BANK OF CANADA RECORDS

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to one asked a few minutes ago by the hon. member for Spadina concerning the storage of Canadian economic data in computer banks in the United States. Will the Minister of Finance indicate whether his negative answer also applies to Bank of Canada records? If he is unable to answer that question at the moment, will he undertake to ascertain what the situation is in respect of the Bank of Canada?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I think the same answer would apply but I will check this out with the Bank of Canada. Perhaps I should extend my earlier answer by saying that data which is public can be stored by anyone anywhere. Data issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, for example, which is published can be stored anywhere by anybody who wants to do so because it is public data.

**Mr. Bell:** If they are crazy enough.

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#### TRADE

##### SUGGESTED SALE OF SWORDFISH TO OTHER COUNTRIES

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for South Shore asked me a question yesterday in respect of marketing efforts, swordfish and mercury content. My department has studied all major markets for swordfish to determine the possibility of sales. Most European countries have established administrative guidelines setting tolerance levels for mercury content in fish the same as we have in Canada. These levels would effectively prohibit the import of nearly all available supplies of Canadian swordfish. Japan is the world's largest producer of swordfish and is encountering difficulties similar to those which Canada faces.

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#### AGRICULTURE

##### FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING BILL—SUGGESTED MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND INTERESTED PARTIES

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister with regard to Bill C-176 and the impasse which he feels has been brought about by the hon. member for Crowfoot. Is he now prepared to sit down and meet with interested parties from across Canada to see whether or not the objectionable parts of the bill can be ironed out and agreement reached?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, a series of meetings have been going on. I know that my parliamentary secretary was at a meeting a few days