

PUBLIC SERVICE

ACTION TO CONTROL GROWTH

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Treasury Board. Can the minister indicate to the House whether recommendations have been made by him to the cabinet on proposals that would control the growth of the civil service and, if so, has his policy been ratified by the cabinet?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. gentleman will want to rephrase his question and not invite me to violate my cabinet oath.

* * *

TRANSPORT

POSSIBILITY OF CHANGES IN DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Can the minister tell the House if any changes are contemplated with regard to the Minister of Transport's operations in the province of Newfoundland and in the Atlantic provinces?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Would the hon. member repeat the last part of the question, please?

Mr. Carter: Are any changes contemplated with regard to the operations of the Minister of Transport in Newfoundland and in the Atlantic area?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): No, not that I know of, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[Translation]

POST OFFICE

POSTAL WORKERS' STRIKE—REQUEST FOR SPECIAL
MEASURES TO ASSURE DELIVERY OF BLOOD SAMPLES

Mrs. Albanie Morin (Louis-Hébert): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General.

Can the minister state whether there is a way or measures which could be taken for the delivery of 6,000 blood samples from newly born babies in hospitals in the province of Quebec? These samples are now held up in mail bags in Quebec City, and considerable harm will come to the babies if they do not receive appropriate treatment at the right time.

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, this example and, I believe, many others are a clear indication of the grave harm that can come from illegal strikes. I shall inquire of Quebec postal officials whether these samples could not be afforded special treatment,

Oral Questions

after agreement between postal workers and management in Quebec City.

* * *

● (1500)

[English]

AGRICULTURE

REASON FOR CABINET NOT MEETING EXECUTIVE OF
NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Would he tell the House why the cabinet refused to meet with the executive of the National Farmers Union to discuss national agricultural policy? Is the cabinet out on strike?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the cabinet receives a great number of requests from various organizations that wish to meet with the cabinet. Some we see every year, some we see every other year. The National Farmers Union is in the latter category. We have told them that we will see them on a two-year basis.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: In the meantime, they have been invited to make their representations to a group of ministers headed by the Minister of Agriculture, and they will be making representations to our caucus if they have occasion to, as they have made them to the Senate Committee on Agriculture. It is not as though they are not having a hearing. The cabinet cannot meet on a weekly basis with every group in the country that wishes to meet with us.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Red Deer for a supplementary question, followed by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe.

Mr. Towers: My supplementary question was for the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker, but I believe he has left.

* * *

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY WHETHER MINISTER WILL RECEIVE DR. NETO OF
ANGOLA OFFICIALLY—ASSISTANCE TO LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Does the minister intend to welcome in person and officially Dr. Neto, president of the popular movement for the liberation of Angola, who apparently will be in our country in the next few hours?

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker.