Madam Speaker: Pardon. The Right Hon. Prime Minister had not finished with his answer, I am sorry. I will give him the floor.

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, the opposition often asks questions in two parts so I do not see why they would object to a question in two parts by a member on this side.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: On this question of denominational schools, Mr. Peckford again failed to read the resolution. When we talk of freedom of religion, we are not following the type of protection given in the United States which forbids the establishment of religions. Therefore, far from abolishing the right of denominational schools to continue to exist, our proposed resolution, on the contrary, guarantees the existence of that freedom of religion. It is also guaranteed by section 93 of the British North America Act which is continued by the present resolution. So again, on this item Premier Peckford is completely off base.

[Translation]

AIRPORTS

MIRABEL INTERNATIONAL—IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, in view of the absence of the Minister of Transport and the importance of my question, I shall put it to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Last Thursday the Secretary of State, addressing the Mirabel Cargo Association, recalled that during the election campaign the Liberal party had promised to proceed with phase two of Mirabel, which was part of the original project, adding, and I quote:

—in fact, there is absolutely no question at this time of proceeding with phase 2 of Mirabel as provided for in the original plan and entailing the construction of a second airport and another landing strip.

Can the Prime Minister tell us today whether the Secretary of State and Minister of Communications was then speaking on behalf of the government and whether he, the Prime Minister, was advised of that decision?

Mr. Robert Bockstael (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Transport, I must say the question is still under study; it would be unwise to announce a decision at this time. When the impact of the over-all situation at Mirabel and Dorval has been looked into, the minister, in agreement with cabinet, will be in a position to announce the decision to the House.

Mr. La Salle: Madam Speaker, in view of the reply of the parliamentary secretary, it seems clear that the Minister of Communications made an unfounded statement in affirming that going ahead with phase 2 had been definitely decided

Oral Questions

against; under those circumstances, can the parliamentary secretary assure us that a study is being made on the possibility of achieving the original objective which, according to the statement of the Minister of Communications, has been definitely cancelled?

Mr. Bockstael: Madam Speaker, there is still an element of uncertainty due to deep changes in our economy and the use of the two services, especially that of the Mirabel airport. The matter is still under review and the Minister of Transport will have an announcement to make at a later date.

• (1450)

[English]

INDUSTRY

MASSEY-FERGUSON-PROPOSAL TO REFINANCE

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I wonder if the minister might share with us the nature of the proposal which was put before this government and the government of Ontario with regard to the recapitalization and reorganization of Massey-Ferguson which justified the government taking this most unusual position of guaranteeing the new equity investment of those who might put their money into Massey-Ferguson without similarly guaranteeing the jobs of the people who work there.

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Madam Speaker, my hon. friend missed a very important part of what I had to say in making my announcement on behalf of the federal government yesterday. At that time I said that among the very important conditions attached to the willingness of the Government of Canada and the government of Ontario to guarantee a portion of the equity refinancing of Massey-Ferguson would be conditions involving the preservation of jobs and the carrying out of further research and development, production and investment by Massey-Ferguson in Canada. These will be conditions very much attached to what we intend to do in facilitating the refinancing of Massey-Ferguson.

Mr. Deans: In order that we can better understand what it is that the minister proposes to do and the nature of the guarantees that he is going to extract, is the minister prepared to stand in this House and explain to us and the people of Canada exactly what form the guarantees will take which will assure us that the equity investment guarantee will in fact mean for Canadians that there will be jobs, that there will be a reorganized company and that there will in fact be a profitmaking operation from which we can derive benefit? If he can, will he explain why the government, if it feels this is a good thing to do, did not take an equity position and gain for Canada at least some return?