

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

ALLEGED EXCESSIVE CHARGE BY AIR CANADA FOR CARRYING MAIL

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Was the Postmaster General expressing the view of the government when he said in Edmonton last night that the government is paying far too much to have its mail transported by Air Canada? I ask this question, particularly in view of his statement to the effect that he had not revealed this to his cabinet colleagues and that he really should not have said anything about it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Hees: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Prime Minister take steps to promote more dialogue between members of his government?

INCOME TAX

AIR CANADA STRIKE—EXTENSION OF FILING DEADLINE

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the Air Canada strike and the failure of the Post Office Department to accustom itself to the five day week delivery of mail, will the minister consider extending the deadline for the return of income tax payments from midnight of Wednesday, April 30 to midnight of Monday, May 5?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the facts the hon. member has referred to, there is nothing to prevent our people from mailing their income tax returns before April 30.

Mr. Hales: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister talk to his colleague, the Postmaster General, and ask him to make provisions for stamping in an appropriate manner all mail posted before midnight on April 30.

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

DAIRYING—POLICY RESPECTING INDUSTRIAL MILK

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

As the industrial milk producers are not satisfied with the milk policy for 1969, has the minister received recently representations

Inquiries of the Ministry

from the Quebec C.F.U. or does the minister intend, in the next few days, to meet with representatives of Quebec agricultural organizations with a view to considering the industrial milk policy?

[English]

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we have received a number of communications from farm organizations, including the one the hon. member mentioned. The minister and the department will be happy to meet with representatives of organizations to explain the reasons for making adjustments with respect to the new dairy year.

DAIRYING—COMPLAINTS FROM WESTERN PRODUCERS

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister say whether he is taking any action to deal with representations of western Canadian dairy producers who allege that present Canadian Dairy Commission Policies militate against dairy production in western Canada?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we do not accept the preamble to that type of question.

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RESIGNATION OF GENERAL DE GAULLE

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Prime Minister.

I wish to know whether the Prime Minister has sent a telegram expressing our condolences to General de Gaulle, the former President of the French Republic, who resigned this morning. If so, can he advise us of the text of this telegram?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I have not sent any such telegram. In my opinion, anyone engaged in politics knows that a politician's career is somewhat short-lived and I think the General is no more surprised than I am myself.

[English]

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the government received a message of condolence from the government of France on the resignation of the Minister of Transport?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.