

*Oral Questions*SUGGESTED AGREEMENT ON TIME LIMIT ON DEBATE OF  
FAMILY ALLOWANCE LEGISLATION

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the government House leader did not realize that one of my previous questions was directed to him, I should like to put this question to him. In light of the questions and answers that have taken place in the last few moments, I should like to ask whether the minister will seek an agreement among the parties with respect to a time limit for the second reading debate of this bill so that we can at least get that stage through before we recess for the summer?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I will make an effort to reach an agreement on this legislation. I would have more optimism in making that effort had I succeeded in reaching an agreement in respect of items of legislation which have at the moment taken precedence over this present bill which has just received first reading today.

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● (1430)

[Translation]

**CONSUMER AFFAIRS**INCREASE IN PRICE OF GASOLINE IN EASTERN CANADA—  
REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION—GOVERNMENT SUPPORT  
FOR CANADIAN CHARTER OF CONSUMERS' RIGHTS

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Can he tell the House whether his department has conducted an investigation to determine whether the mad increase in the price of gasoline in eastern Canada is justifiable?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as the House knows, an investigation of the oil industry is now in progress, as a result of a complaint filed with the department by the Canadian Consumer Council.

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

Can the minister tell us whether he intends to grant his support soon to the Canadian Charter of Consumer Rights as advocated by the Canadian Consumer Council?

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, we are always influenced by such good ideas.

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[English]

**TRANSPORT**REQUEST THAT HEARINGS ON APPLICATION "B" BE HELD  
BY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AT PLACES OTHER  
THAN OTTAWA—COST OF EVIDENCE

**Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, if I may in the absence of the Minister of Transport, I should like to

[Mr. Speaker.]

direct a question to the Prime Minister. In light of the fact that submissions with regard to Application "B" before the Canadian Transport Commission have to be in by August 1, will the Prime Minister ensure that the hearings will this time be held in centres in Canada other than Ottawa and copies of transcripts will be made available on a reasonable basis to responsible consumer groups.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the plans in this regard, but I will take the question as notice on behalf of the minister.

**Mr. Ellis:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware, as alleged by the Centre for Public Interest Law, that groups to date have had to pay one dollar per page for the 3,000 page document covering hearings of Application "A" and, if so, will the Prime Minister take action at once to ensure that in future copies cost no more than those of the evidence of standing committees of parliament?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I would have to give the same answer.

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**HOUSING**STUDENT CO-OPERATIVE PROJECTS—ALLEGATIONS OF  
IMPROPRIETY—KNOWLEDGE OF FORMER MINISTER—  
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Has the minister discussed with the Minister of State for Urban Affairs and housing the details of the serious charges of complicity and illegality contained in the evidence of Vincent Lapetina in respect of the student co-operative housing program, copies of which were generously made available to me by the hon. member for Calgary North and which can be obtained by any member or minister who wants them at this time? Were these facts discussed and was there any discussion of the question concerning why facts which apparently warranted the present minister to launch an investigation into this very serious racket did not justify an inquiry by the hon. gentleman previously?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I have been aware, of course, that allegations have been made recently in this House and apparently in the press. My colleague the Minister of State for Urban Affairs had a discussion about this with me the other day. I informed him I was most certainly not aware of those allegations to which the hon. member has just referred when I was minister. I do not know whether my predecessor, who authorized three of these particular student co-operative housing projects when he was the minister, and who submitted the orders in council and in fact was the responsible minister when the funds were committed, was aware of them either. But that, of course, would remain to be seen when the investigation is completed.

**Mr. Baldwin:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I do not want to discuss the relevancies with the