

would be the cheapest although that would require some looping of the existing line. It does not rule out, however, the possibility that a northern tier line, if you like, might be added as an additional facility to western Canada.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. About 17 minutes ago you indicated that you would recognize me for a supplementary on the important question of housing, and since it is almost six o'clock and it is an important matter I wonder whether that could be done?

Mr. Speaker: My understanding is that the question which the hon. member was going to ask was so important, along with others, that members would want to conclude the question period before we rise,—there are some 13 minutes or so left—otherwise we would have to continue the question period at eight o'clock. I am in the hands of the House in this regard.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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WELFARE

REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN FEDERAL AID TO PROVINCES UNDER CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that families on low income with children are suffering especially from the high food prices, and in view of the fact that my leader pointed out earlier that some of the provinces cannot afford this cost-shared assistance, will the government now offer, under the Canada Assistance Plan, to pay the full cost of increased provincial or municipal food allowances to families on social assistance.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the premise of the hon. lady's leader that no province can afford this. It really depends where they put their priorities.

● (1800)

Mr. Lewis: You said some provinces can.

Mr. Trudeau: But, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the government has acted to help all families with children by announcing legislation to effect an immediate increase to \$12 of the payments under the present Family Allowances Act, lest some provinces not want to act along the Canada Assistance Plan lines that I suggested.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REASONS FOR REFUSING RETRIAL TO YVES GEOFFROY

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Justice.

Recently, the minister dismissed all prospects of a new trial in the case of Notary Geoffroy and I agree with him.

Oral Questions

In view of the motives behind the minister's decision, motives of which the public is not aware, would the minister be willing to make them public or to explain why he would refuse to do so?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the statement indicating that a new trial had been refused indicated that this was done after a complete examination of the allegations which have been put forward as the basis for a new trial, and after the forming of a judgment which is properly that of the Minister of Justice that no special action of this sort was appropriate at this time.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT PLANS TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC SITUATION

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In view of the lack in the Prime Minister's statement today of any real reference to a change in the economic policy, the fiscal policy, the monetary and especially the taxation policy, can the Prime Minister tell us if at this special session he has any plans for any other legislation, policy statements or announcements?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the hon. member an answer today.

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GRAIN

AMOUNT OF INCREASE IN SUBSIDY—RELATIONSHIP TO PRICE OF BREAD

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Could he tell the House whether the \$1.25 per bushel subsidy on wheat announced today is over and above the \$1 per bushel previously announced by the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board, or is the increase announced today 25 cents a bushel?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is the latter.

Mr. Towers: Can the Minister tell us how he relates 25 cents a bushel on wheat to 5 cents a loaf on bread?

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MINISTERIAL DELEGATION TO JAPAN—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE MEETING WILL BE RESCHEDULED

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, my question is either for the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Could the House be advised whether or not the ministerial delegation to Japan will be proceed-