

*Oral Questions***BILINGUALISM**RECLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN POSITIONS AS BILINGUAL—
MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the President of the Treasury Board. I noticed he left the House a few moments ago; I wonder if he can come back immediately. In his absence, I will put my question to his parliamentary secretary.

In view of the fact that French-speaking civil servants in the Montreal area are showing legitimate impatience six years after the adoption of the Official Languages Act, can the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board report progress to the House on the reclassification of the positions that may be reclassified as bilingual in Quebec, tell us if he is prepared to recognize the principle of a bonus based on the degree of bilingualism required for the exercise of the functions, and whether he has been invited by the regional section of Quebec to meet them in order that, while negotiations are under way, the same climate of co-operation and the same quality of service be maintained in both official languages?

[English]

Mr. Lloyd Francis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I will take up a number of the points raised by the hon. member with the minister. However, I would like to go on record as pointing out there have been a series of consultations involving staff associations and Treasury Board through the advisory committee of the National Joint Council. No fewer than ten of these have taken place since the month of August of this year. These consultations are still necessary. No doubt the minister will have further observations to make.

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AIR CANADAREQUEST THAT MANAGEMENT NEGOTIATE WITH CERTIFIED
BARGAINING AGENT FOR FINANCE BRANCH EMPLOYEES

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport, but may I say that the issue might also be of concern to the Minister of Labour. In view of the unsatisfactory state of labour negotiations between the employees and management of Air Canada's finance branch, will the Minister of Transport discuss with Air Canada the desirability of negotiating directly with the certified bargaining agent, namely the Canadian Airline Employees Association?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I consider the matter of proceeding on this question to be very much a matter for the internal management of Air Canada. I recognize, however, that there are some questions which have been brought to the attention of my colleague, the Minister of Labour, and he has a role to play in this regard.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I then ask the Minister of Labour whether he is using his good offices to get the two sides to this dispute to

[Mr. Lessard.]

negotiate in accordance with the established principles of collective bargaining.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker. As the hon. member knows, the mediators or industrial consultants in my department are familiar with this matter about which the hon. member is concerned. They are prepared to be of assistance of any time.

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TRADECANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—PROPOSED
ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Is the government giving consideration to the establishment of a Canada-United States economic commission to deal with swings in the balance of automotive trade between Canada and the United States as brought about by the auto pact, such a commission having been recommended by the Auto Parts Manufacturers Association of Canada and the United States Senate Committee on Finance?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, this may well turn out to be the next step in the process which is already underway. The hon. member will recall that the President and the Prime Minister agreed some months ago to set up a study of the automotive industry for his information and for that of the House. My officials met with the American officials about a month ago and agreed to initiate studies in parallel. In other words, there is a study going on in the automotive industry in the United States and a similar one going on with regard to the automotive industry in Canada. Once these studies have been completed, and we have a fairly tight timetable to get them completed in a hurry, we will decide on the next step, as to whether some kind of further joint step is necessary. I can assure the hon. member it is being examined at the present time.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICEUSE OF CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS IN COURT CASES—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): My question is to the Minister of Justice. I raised this matter before. In the case of PPG Industries Limited and Pilkington Brothers versus the Attorney General of Canada, the Chief Justice of Canada criticized the use of confidential income tax information and documents, contrary to the Combines Investigation Act. He said that was unjustified, sordid and sloppy. Has the minister investigated this criticism of his department and can he assure the House and the country that confidential information will not be used again?

● (1440)

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): I have, Mr. Speaker. I am under constraints as to what I can say, both