

[Translation]

POSTAL SUBSIDIES

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Northerners appreciated the Conservative government maintaining at \$15 million the subsidy for air stage service to deliver food and other goods sent by mail to isolated communities in northern Canada and Quebec. Can the minister tell us today that priority will be given to perishable foodstuffs and a directive to that effect will be issued to users of this northern service, together with a fair postal rate for residents of northern Canada?

Hon. Monique Landry (Minister for External Relations and Minister of State (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)): Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his question and share his concern that the postal subsidy really go for nutritious food so that inhabitants of remote areas can have access to such food for better health. Therefore in the coming weeks, we will define what is meant by "perishable food" in cooperation with the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Post Office, and the main distributors concerned.

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[English]

IMMIGRATION

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Employment and Immigration.

On May 14, he and the Secretary of State for External Affairs made a statement on the Al-Mashat case about which they released a report to Canadians. In that statement, the minister said: "There have been no hidden motives, no espionage capers, and no conspiracies by any individual or governmental agency either Canadian or foreign."

If this is all so straightforward, why are there two versions of the report, version A released on May 14 and version B released today? Will he answer that question?

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that I find it strange that members of Parliament opposite are yap-

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ping their mouths all over Canada about the importance of this issue but they refused this morning to listen to the minister of external affairs and myself explain and answer all these questions. Theatrics will not help Canadians understand what really happened which is what this government wants.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, if this minister and his government really wanted Canadians to understand what happened in the Al-Mashat case, they would not refuse to answer questions in the high court of Parliament before 29 million Canadians.

I ask the minister again if he stands by what he had to say May 14 and the statement released at that time? Why are there two versions of that statement, version A, released May 14 and version B, released today? Why can't he answer that before this Parliament and make clear what is going on to the people of this country?

• (1500)

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I stand by what I said on May 14. The only thing I can add is that this morning in committee the only thing missing was the kazoos.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is the regular question put to the government House leader concerning the business of the House.

I wonder if the government House leader would indicate what the business will be for the remainder of the day, for Friday, Monday, Tuesday, and the remaining part of next week. Could he give us some detail?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. parliamentary secretary was seeking the floor on a point of order, but I would ask him to defer to the hon. House leader.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon we will continue debate on Bill C-6. Friday will be an allotted day for supply. Monday, we will continue second reading of Bill C-5, the Aeronautics Act