

[English]

## TRADE

ALLEGATION UNITED STATES DISC PROGRAM  
INCREASES COMPETITION FOR CANADIAN COMPANIES

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. What steps has he taken to meet a situation which is now developing whereby some United States manufacturers are approaching Canadian merchandisers and saying that they now can compete with Canadian made goods as a consequence of receiving grants under the U.S. DISC program.

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I said in the speech I made in the budget debate that we would look into particular situations. If my hon. friend can indicate one, I will look into it immediately.

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## PENSIONS

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON SUGGESTED INCREASE  
FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is the minister yet in a position to make a progress report on his efforts to secure substantial improvements in railway pensions with respect to both the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, it is my hope and intention that I will be able to make a statement on this subject before the end of the current week.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will that statement apply to both railways, to the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific?

**Mr. Jamieson:** Mr. Speaker, I can only, of course, as the minister through whom CNR responds to the House, assure the hon. member that it will cover the CNR situation. I cannot at the moment say whether it will extend to CP.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** You could at least try.

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## FLOODS

POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF COVERAGE OF FRASER  
VALLEY DIKING AUTHORITY—GOVERNMENT POSITION  
ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment. In view of the great need for vastly improved diking in many parts of the river systems of British Columbia, can the

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

minister advise the House if he has received any representations from the government of British Columbia on this subject, especially with regard to extending the coverage of the Fraser Valley Diking Authority to other areas like Kamloops on the upper reaches of the system.

**Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, not as yet.

**Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister take the initiative and contact the government of British Columbia with a view to extending the authority of this diking corporation to cover any of the pressure spots and to prevent flooding in British Columbia.

**Mr. Davis:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to restate our suggestions along those lines.

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## INDUSTRY

DOMINION AVIATION—STATUS OF APPLICATION FOR  
DEVELOPMENT GRANT—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON  
STOL PROJECTS

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Some time ago I asked him about an application for a PAIT grant for Dominion Aircraft. Perhaps one of the ministers' quiet answers slipped by when I was not paying attention. May I ask the minister if this application has been rejected.

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The PAIT committee, which is an interdepartmental committee, found that it was not able to recommend support for this project. The two principal factors in influencing this decision were, first, lack of convincing evidence of financial viability of the company and, second, concentration of the development work in the U.S.A. The research and development programs of the Canadian government are for research and development in Canada.

**Mr. Baldwin:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since this decision appears to confirm the government's announced intention to concentrate government assistance on STOL projects in eastern Canada, would the minister facilitate the present announced intention of the government to seek American financing in order to proceed with this project.

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, I deny emphatically the postulate involved in the question, and I suggest that my hon. friend ought to be better informed on the project itself.

**Mr. Baldwin:** I wonder if the minister could answer the other part of the question.