

feasible operation and if the action constitutes restraint of competition in the Vancouver area?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, we have looked into this situation. There are two other companies in addition to Hays and Canadian Kenworth operating on the Pacific coast. There is the Pacific truck division of International Harvester and White Motors of Kelowna, B.C. Hays has been closed down because the market for logging trucks has declined owing to decreased demand for wood and wood products.

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW ACT

INQUIRY WHETHER ACT PREVENTS CLOSING OF ONE OF TWO SUBSIDIARIES BY PARENT COMPANY TO REDUCE COMPETITION

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise the House if, pursuant to phase two of the Foreign Investment Review Act, provision has been to prevent foreign companies which own or control competing subsidiaries in Canada from closing down one business in order to reduce competition in the area in which they operate?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think that question is outside the ambit of the Foreign Investment Review Act.

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TRANSPORT

APPLICABILITY OF FREEZE ON RAIL LINE ABANDONMENTS TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Hugh A. Anderson (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Does the policy of freezing rail line abandonments apply only to the prairie provinces, or does it apply to the whole of Canada, including British Columbia? If it includes B.C., how can the CPR abandon service on the only rail line on Vancouver Island?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think it applies to all western provinces.

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BILINGUALISM

REASON FOR REFRESHER COURSES AND SENDING OF FAMILIES TO PARIS IN VIEW OF PROPOSED REDUCTION IN EXPENDITURES

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the federal government's proposal to cut back expenditures, how can the government justify \$925 per week refresher courses in bilingualism for a select 125 senior civil servants in the Laurentians during the summer months?

Oral Questions

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, there was no question of bilingualism expenditure cuts except that of \$4 million in special programs. This is part of study sessions that enable high officials to speak both official languages and thus deal with all Canadian citizens in the discharge of their duties.

[English]

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate what the minister just said. Can the minister tell me why a directive was sent out or can he inform the House why families are being sent to Paris for further post-graduate French studies, at much higher fees, and why this is necessary at this time?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the details relating to the second question. However, I shall inquire and give details to the hon. member with pleasure.

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[English]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGED DRUG TRAFFICKING AT MONTREAL AIRPORT—
REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. He has had notice of it since June 3. He said he was first made aware of the matter I am raising when he talked to reporters about allegations concerning drug trafficking at Montreal airport, the involvement of organized crime and also the involvement of various departments of the federal government. Could he report what he has learned from the Commissioner of the RCMP?

● (1440)

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the story in the newspapers is correct in that there is an investigation at the Montreal airport. I might say that there are investigations at other airports with regard to drugs as well. However, the report is not correct in that there are a large number of federal government officials involved. As a matter of fact, the number is very small. I think it is three or four. That does not mean that others in other areas are not involved. I cannot say anything more about the investigation now, except that it is continuing.

ALLEGED DRUG TRAFFICKING AT MONTREAL AIRPORT—
POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF NATIONAL REVENUE
EMPLOYEES

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): I am sorry the Minister of National Revenue is not in the House as he was for several days when I was trying to get the floor.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nowlan: Can the minister assure the House, and he came close to it in his first answer, that there are no officials of National Revenue directly involved because for over a month and a half this smear against National