

conversation going on in the house at the time and therefore I can understand why Your Honour might not have heard the question. If not now, perhaps Your Honour might see me shortly so that I could restate the question.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might restate the question. I hope it will not be in the same words.

Mr. Nesbitt: I thank Your Honour very much. In the light of the suggestions attributed to the chairman of Air Canada to the effect that one air line, presumably Air Canada, should represent Canada on international routes will the Minister of Transport discuss with his colleague the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce whether or not he will continue to press New Zealand to review its decision to cancel Canadian Pacific Airlines rights to land in that country and will it be government policy to press this matter on behalf of Canadian Pacific Airlines in view of this announcement.

Mr. Speaker: I would think my original ruling was correct. I believe I heard the question correctly in the first instance. I would suggest to the hon. member that I will return to him later on. He may have a third opportunity to ask the question in restated terms.

LANDING RIGHTS AT TORONTO FOR INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary or perhaps related question which I should like to direct to the Minister of Transport. Will the minister say whether he has received representations from groups in Toronto asking that foreign air lines be given landing rights in Toronto on a temporary basis, and if so what reply he intends to make on behalf of the government.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, such representations have been received. The reply is that the matter is being referred to the Canadian Transport Commission.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION

H.M.C.S. "BONAVENTURE"—CANCELLATION OF REFIT CONTRACT

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services or the Minister of National Defence. Is the minister in a position to confirm that the contract for

Inquiries of the Ministry

the annual refit of the *Bonaventure* won by the Saint John yard has now been cancelled.

Hon. Leo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether we can refer to that as a contract. We have decided not to follow on the bid that was proposed. We have decided instead that we would do the minimum necessary overhaul and repair at the naval dockyard at Halifax, as a measure of economy.

Mr. Bell: Since the Saint John yard had the lowest tender and since it had the realistic tender on the previous *Bonaventure* refit—and I am looking at the President of the Treasury Board when I say that—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Bell: —and since there is tremendous dislocation—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member look at the Chair, so that I may have an opportunity to ask him to put a question.

Mr. Bell: Excuse me for getting excited about this, Mr. Speaker, but will the minister give every assurance there will not be any contracting out of this nature to anyone else, unless it is a tender job, in view of what has gone on in respect of the *Bonaventure* matter.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, does the Minister of National Defence understand that the main dock at the Saint John shipyard has been reserved for the *Bonaventure* since the opening of bids early in April, and that other ships have been turned away including a laker, a ferry and two tankers in contemplation of receiving this contract? What is the government going to do about this?

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Mr. Speaker, I think my responsibility in this regard is to look after the *Bonaventure*, not more than that. We are trying today to do everything necessary to keep that ship afloat and operational under the present austerity program.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence for the purpose of clarifying this matter. Inasmuch as it is now over two years since the *Bonaventure* has been out of the water, and I say this with apologies to the gallery, to have her bottom scraped, will the minister indicate how much longer it will take before this is done? Let me remind the