

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, would the minister tell the House whether, when he was stuck for four days on the Bullet, he had the comforts of a place to sleep and hot food to eat?

Mr. Ambrose Hubert Peddle (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport, first, if he was ever blown off the rails while travelling on a train and, second, if he ever hung over the Exploits River in a bus held back only by a tree?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not want to be unfair to the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and leave him as the only member from his province who has not asked a supplementary on this matter, so I will call on No. 4.

NEWFOUNDLAND—REQUEST FOR REPORTS ON BUS ACCIDENTS

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is a very serious supplementary, but first of all I was on that train, and I do not recall the minister being there when that happened.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lundrigan: Can the minister give us an indication of when we will receive the reports of the investigations into the numerous bus accidents that have occurred since the institution of that service? I do not recall a single word of any report being released by the CNR. When can we expect the results of those inquiries?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I cannot be specific about this but I will find out. I can assure the hon. member that all such accidents are investigated. I regret the emphasis that hon. members have placed on the number of accidents. Generally speaking, there have not been that many and the safety record of the service has been excellent.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED ATTEMPT BY POLICE TO PLANT DRUGS

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, further to the question I asked the Solicitor General on January 14 about the alleged attempt by police to plant drugs in a residence in a small Saskatchewan city, does the minister now have an answer to that question?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that this story is absolutely groundless.

Inquiries of the Ministry

POLLUTION

REPORT ON INQUIRY INTO MERCURY CONTAMINATION OF RIVERS FLOWING INTO JAMES BAY

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Has the minister received a report about the inquiry on pollution caused by mercury discharged into rivers running into James Bay? Does he know who is to blame for this pollution?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I shall be pleased to look into the matter and report directly to the hon. member. I do not have any information on hand at this time.

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[English]

ENERGY

POSSIBLE OIL TANKER ROUTE BETWEEN VALDEZ, ALASKA, AND SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Have discussions taken place with the United States government concerning the possibility of establishing an oil tanker route between Valdez, Alaska, and Seattle, Washington?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, other than the normal discussions that go on with the United States with respect to navigation matters on an international basis, there have not been any discussions on the specific subject of a tanker route in that area.

OIL AND GAS PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION IN NORTH— COMPLETION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Can he tell the House when the present research activities in the Canadian north on the problems of oil and gas pipeline construction is expected to provide enough information for construction decisions in that area?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am confident that we shall obtain the required information in the course of next summer.

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[English]

AIR TRANSPORT

MANITOBA—RESTORATION OF CLASS A REGIONAL SERVICE

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. I