

Oral Questions

we are anxiously waiting for them to be ready with a plan so that we can start negotiations, get a treaty going, and reach our objectives together.

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, the Minister has referred to past actions of the Government of Canada which, I point out to him, his predecessor publicly admitted were inadequate.

GASOLINE EMISSIONS CONTROL

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, considering there are important things which the Canadian Government can do independent of what the United States does, why is it that in the United States there are three times as tough regulations or a level of control over gasoline emissions as we have here in Canada? Will the Minister at least match the U.S. level of gasoline emission control here in Canada? That is action he could take. Why does he not do it?

Hon. Chas L. Caccia (Minister of the Environment): Madam Speaker, I will not let the Leader of the New Democratic Party get away with a statement about a colleague of mine who has done such good work for all Canadians on the matter of acid rain.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Caccia: The present Minister of Employment and Immigration, if he deserves anything, it is respect, recognition, and praise. Having said that, Madam Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Member that the question of gasoline emissions is an important one and is an issue to which my predecessor has addressed himself in recent months. I am now discussing the matter with the Minister of Transport and I hope to be able to make an announcement in a few weeks.

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, we hope to have that announcement, and we hope it is a positive one.

SITUATION IN ONTARIO

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, with specific reference to Canada's largest producer of acid rain, namely, the Province of Ontario, and considering that in the Province of Ontario 1,400 lakes have already been killed because of acid rain and, I understand, another 48,000 lakes are seriously threatened, could the Minister tell us if he has approached the Government of Ontario and asked it to establish specific targets for getting rid of this blight in this our largest Province? If he has not done that, why not?

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Minister of the Environment): Madam Speaker, it is pathetic to see the Leader of the New Democratic Party—

An Hon. Member: Answer the question.

Mr. Caccia:—being forced to raise this issue because he has so little confidence in the Leader of the New Democratic Party at Queen's Park. Let me say to the Leader of the NDP that, as

far as Ontario is concerned, if he has given up on his counterpart at Queen's Park, he should know that Ontario has set objectives of 43 per cent for Ontario Hydro and reduced standards of emissions for INCO which should reach a level of 1,770 tonnes daily in a matter of time.

An. Hon. Member: What time?

Mr. Caccia: An emission reduction of 40 per cent has been set in Quebec for Noranda. At the same time the Province of Ontario, I am told, is intending to buy 20 per cent of its coal requirements in the form of low sulphur content coal. I am making representations, and have made representations to my counterpart at Queen's Park, and I intend to continue to do so.

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LABOUR RELATIONS

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS WILDCAT STRIKE AT RAINY RIVER, ONT.

Hon. John M. Reid (Kenora-Rainy River): Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Labour. At the present time there is a wildcat strike taking place among CN employees in the Village of Rainy River. It is likely to begin to spread because it deals with technological changes being introduced by the railway over its system. Would the Minister tell us what he can do to ensure that the technological changes, which have been the cause of wilds cat strikes, can be negotiated between the unions and the management, instead of being imposed unilaterally by management as is now the case?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, like the Hon. Member, I am disappointed to see this illegal strike. Of course my officials are available, should both parties want assistance to quickly settle the issue.

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[English]

CROWN CORPORATIONS

CANADAIR—REAPPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In his previous response to the Leader of the Opposition he stated he was happy to leave the operations of Canadair to the management of Canadair. In view of the considerable comment made by Senator Austin in reports linking the problems to the directors of Canadair, could the Prime Minister explain why the board was reappointed this summer, with no changes apart from the president?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Madam Speaker, but Senator Austin can be asked that question. He has appeared before the parliamentary committee, and he will