

*Oral Questions*

have been going on for some time during land claims negotiations.

**An hon. Member:** Smokey the Bear.

**Mr. Nielsen:** When you need a shower, you can't find one.

**Mr. Kempling:** You have been sending smoke signals to the natives.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** I can tell hon. members that is probably the last time I will have a non-partisan reception in my ministerial office.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. Christmas is coming. I could not make out whether the minister had finished his answer.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** No.

**Madam Speaker:** Then he has the floor.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** Madam Speaker, if I may be permitted to finish my answer, all that clause in the land claims policy means is that already alienated interests of third parties cannot be ignored. They have to be dealt with in all fairness. We cannot just obliterate them in a land claims settlement, so when they are dealt with they will have to be dealt with fairly. Those third party interests will have to be accepted and compensated for in some fashion in over-all settlements with Indian people.

**Mr. Manly:** Madam Speaker, I take it from the minister's answer that aboriginal rights claims will not be prejudicated by these other claims.

## NEGOTIATION OF LAND CLAIMS

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question relates to another statement in the policy that where claims are made in a province the province must be involved in claims negotiations. Considering the past intransigence of the British Columbia government—where all major claims are still waiting negotiation—what steps is the minister prepared to take if a province refuses to negotiate?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Madam Speaker, the present policy is to be constantly urging the provinces to meet with us to resolve this question. In my view it has not become necessary to adopt any alternative method of proceeding simply because even in the province of British Columbia, as the hon. member is aware, the attorney general there has indicated that he is supportive of the negotiator we have in place with reference to the Nishga claim. His officials are participating with us in the over-all settlement. That was not the situation in that province no more than a year or so ago. I am happy to say that the situation with respect to provinces assisting and co-operating

with us—not just British Columbia but several other provinces—is changing for the better.

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## GRAIN

## POSSIBILITY OF EMBARGO ON EXPORTS TO EASTERN EUROPE

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport in his capacity as the minister responsible for responding to questions in this House respecting the Canadian Wheat Board. My question has to do with the situation in Poland. We all certainly hope that tensions will not increase and the problems will not intensify in Poland, but if they do, there is some indication that we could see a total embargo into all eastern bloc countries, possibly initiated by the United States. If that happens, Canadian grain would, of course, be the first affected.

Is the government giving any thought—although I hope it would never have to use it—to a contingency plan in case there is an embargo and in case we find that exports to that part of the world are cut off?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, there was at least one "if" and perhaps a couple of others in the question. I think this is one occasion on which it might be better not to indulge in speculation. The Secretary of State of External Affairs has said very clearly today that we intend to continue our sales of grain to Poland. I think we would be better to leave it at that for the time being.

## GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question to the minister is very simple. Can he indicate to the House what the policy of the government on grain embargoes in any part of the world is?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, this is not an easy question to answer on the spur of the moment, but if I may express a personal view on the subject I think it has often been demonstrated very clearly in the past—I used to be the minister of industry, trade and commerce—that embargoes are not easy to administer and, generally speaking, do not produce what they were intended to produce in the first place. That is my own reasoning on the concept of embargoes, but it will be for the government as a whole to decide what to do if circumstances such as those indicated by the hon. member should ever develop. And, I hope, as he does, that they will not.