

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Transport. In his press release on Friday afternoon he contended that the additional service will be paid for out of the additional cost. Is there a direct relationship or is this just a hit or miss affair?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question is argumentative.

TRANSPORTATION

MEETING IN WESTERN CANADA RESPECTING RAIL LINE ABANDONMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. E. Pascoe (Moose Jaw-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I also have a question for the Minister of Transport.

Mr. Pickersgill: I seem to be popular today.

Mr. Pascoe: Has the minister any more definite information regarding a meeting in western Canada of the Board of Transport Commissioners with parties wishing to present their views on possible rail line abandonments?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me this is a repetition of a question which was asked last Friday.

Mr. Pascoe: Mr. Speaker, this is an important matter. A meeting has been called for August 1, and we are trying to have one in western Canada before that date. I gave the minister notice of the question.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether you would let me answer the question briefly. An announcement has been made today that a meeting will be held in Winnipeg on August 8.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO INCREASE IN DEPENDANTS' ALLOWANCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the house leader. While he is transmitting information concerning pensions of public servants, could he also clarify the situation with regard to veterans dependants who were left out in the last increase?

Inquiries of the Ministry

AIR TRANSPORT

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SERVICE, OTTAWA-WESTERN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport and I have given him notice of it. Did the Air Transport Board receive an offer from Pacific Western Airlines to provide additional service from Ottawa to western Canada between July 2 and 16 and, if so, what has been the response of the board to this offer?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is yes, and the answer to the second part is that the offer is under very active consideration at the present moment.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MIDDLE EAST—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED ATROCITIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the persistent and mounting allegations of atrocities committed during the course of fighting in the Middle East, can the minister say whether any effort is being made under international auspices to make a determination of these allegations as well as of the reports recently emanating from the Middle East that Israel is attempting to forcibly expatriate Arab residents from the area recently conquered?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, may I take that question as notice.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR ORGANIZATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct to the house leader a question which he has been asked on several occasions by the hon. member for Skeena. Is he giving consideration to the calling before the recess of the standing committee which deals with Indian affairs so that it can organize and arrange for the tours of Indian reservations which have been considered by the committee in the last few years?