

in the negotiations presently going on between union and management at the Dunlop plant in Whitby? I ask the question in full realization of the jurisdictional problems that may be involved.

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman has answered his question. Under the constitution of Canada this is a provincial matter, and I am sure the Department of Labour of Ontario is quite capable, under its very efficient deputy minister, of looking after their own particular problems.

REJECTION OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BY CERTAIN RAILWAY SHOPCRAFT UNIONS

Mr. William Skoreyko (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, has the Minister of Labour received a communication from the secretary of Local 1233 of the United Transportation Union in Edmonton expressing its satisfaction with present negotiations with the railways in Montreal? Is he also aware that the railway shopcraft unions have rejected the terms of the negotiated settlement, and what action is the department taking to avoid a potential strike?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that some of the craft unions have rejected the collective agreement that was submitted to their members for ratification. Other shopcrafts have accepted. Under the constitution of division No. 4, which is the collection of these craft unions, they are now going through what is known as the moratorium period of 30 days during which the craft unions meet to iron out internal differences of opinion concerning whether or not the proposed collective agreement between division No. 4 and the railways should be ratified.

CONSIDERATION OF PENSION CHANGES IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN RAILWAYS AND SHOPCRAFT UNIONS

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, in view of the recent vote to which the minister has referred and in view of the dissension that has been created by the lack of inclusion of the pension changes recommended by the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, would the minister say now whether or not he would personally intervene in the situation and try to get the railways to include this matter in the so-called bargaining process or accept some of the recommendations proposed by the committee?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the question of pensions in the recent negotiations between the shopcrafts and the railways is not at issue. They have opted to consider the whole question of pensions outside the process of collective bargaining.

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[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Could he tell us if he has definitely abandoned the idea of making a substantial grant to the Sno-Jet Company in Thetford Mines as he promised to do during the by-election campaign in Frontenac riding, if this riding would elect the Liberal candidate?

Mr. Speaker: I believe that the expurgated question could be put on the order paper.

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HIGHWAYS

MONTREAL—EAST-WEST EXPRESSWAY—DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN QUEBEC AND OTTAWA

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Because of the importance of the project and of its effects on the employment situation in Montreal, could the minister make a statement in the House today in order to inform the public as to the provisions of the Quebec-Ottawa agreement concerning the East-West Highway in Montreal, and the use that will be made of the \$68 million granted by the federal government. Otherwise, does the minister intend to table a detailed report on the matter in the House within the next few days?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister. Has the Quebec government indicated, or been required to indicate the minimum number of jobs which will be created with these \$68 million, and whether the cost per job will be more than \$5,000?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, the negotiations have been carried out with the Department of Finance and not with mine.

[Later:]

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sainte-Marie on a point of order.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, when I put my question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, he indicated that it was the responsibility of the Minister of Finance. I think that the latter should be called upon to answer this very pressing question for the people of Montreal.

[English]

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, on the question of privilege, I would simply refer the hon. member to yesterday's *Hansard*, page 2545, where I answered this question.