

Oral Questions

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Now the second question.

Mr. MacEachen: We believe that Canada's economic position justifies our presence at that summit.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): What about the second question?

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[Translation]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES**ARRANGEMENT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHEQUES IN VIEW OF CONTINUING POSTAL STRIKE**

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services.

Has the government provided for an emergency plan to distribute socio-economic cheques if the postal strike continues?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, for two weeks now my department has made the necessary arrangements to forward the inside mail of the government, and the essential mail all over the country. The plan works satisfactorily.

As for payments to our suppliers, more particularly those who operate a small business, cheques are also distributed satisfactorily.

To answer the question about socio-economic payments, I must say that a plan does exist, but it is not yet in operation.

Concerning more especially the old age security and family allowances, we expect to be able to do the distribution across the country, but as we may not locate all claimants and because the distribution of those cheques does have humane connotations, I intend to invite all hon. members to an information meeting, on a regional basis, in order to make our intentions known, improve our plan and ask for their co-operation.

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[English]

AIR TRANSPORT**CRASH OF PANARCTIC AIRCRAFT—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON PUBLIC INQUIRY**

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay): Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of Justice prepared to announce today the decision on the long delayed and long awaited independent inquiry into the Panarctic air crash?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, as I said the other day, I have had an opportunity of considering the accident investigation report and the recommendation of the coroner's jury which heard this matter. After consultation with my colleagues, and bearing in mind the importance of aviation in the north, the strong recommendations of the coroner's jury and my responsibility for the administration of justice in the Northwest Territories, I have decided to order a public inquiry under the Inquiries

[Mr. MacEachen.]

Act into the circumstances surrounding the crash of the Panarctic Oils Limited aircraft at Rae Point, Northwest Territories on October 30. I am presently engaged in working on the terms of reference and the appointment of a commissioner, and this will be announced later.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY**REQUEST FOR ACTION ON BRIDGE PROMISED FOR GLENWOOD-HILL SPRING AREA**

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact that the CPR informed me over four months ago that a bridge would be provided in the Glenwood-Hill Spring area in order to facilitate the movement of grain, and in light of the fact that this has not even been started, will the minister assure the House that every effort will be made to have this situation corrected immediately?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think there may be a requirement and a role for the Canadian Transport Commission in relation to the bridge on this particular line, but I will look into the matter.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**REQUEST FOR LIST OF HABITUAL CRIMINALS OR SEX OFFENDERS ON TEMPORARY ABSENCE PASSES**

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General but he seems to have disappeared.

An hon. Member: Carry on.

Mr. Reynolds: In view of the fact that we have had a number of people out on parole who have committed crimes in the past year, would the minister be willing to table in this House a list of all the people who have been out on temporary absence passes in the past 12 months who have been classified as habitual criminals or dangerous sexual offenders?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am a bit confused by the question. At first the hon. member asked me about people on parole, and then he asked about dangerous sexual offenders. I can provide him with certain lists and certain information, but I should like to be clear as to what he wants.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, the list I want is a list of all those who have been on temporary absence or parole in the past 12 months who are classified as dangerous sexual offenders or habitual criminals.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Even if the question were—

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, dangerous sexual offenders are not allowed out on temporary absence passes, and they