

in the local postal strike in Belleville, Ontario, and meet the reasonable request of the employees so that regular service can be restored?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I will look into the matter.

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AGRICULTURE

SUGAR BEETS—REQUEST FOR ALLOCATION TO ATLANTIC AREA

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Agriculture. If there is to be an increase in domestic production of sugar, is consideration being given to an allocation of this production to the Atlantic area?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): As far as I know, Mr. Speaker, at the present time there is no production of sugar beets in the Atlantic area for commercial use. If there is, we will certainly investigate it. As the Minister of Agriculture for Canadian producers, I will do what I can to help them.

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GRAIN

WHEAT—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE RAILWAYS CAN TRANSPORT INCREASED VOLUME

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the minister's recent statement with regard to exports of wheat for the next crop year, can the minister inform the House whether he has received any assurance from the railroads that they will be able to transport such volumes promptly and, if not, is he going to seek such an assurance?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think the past record of performance of the railways in increasing their carriage of grain proves that the railroads can do even better if they so desire. With all the hopper cars now being provided, I am confident we can now do more than we have done in the past.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, this question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the high unemployment in Canada and the fact that only one-third of the LIP projects have been approved, will the minister consider assigning more money to this program so that areas like my own can employ people?

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That question has been asked and the representation has already been made.

Mr. Alexander: A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has allowed an extra two or three minutes, taking into account that we have spent some time on poets, to try to recognize some of the members in the back rows who had not been seen previously. I appreciate that during this time some of the frontbenchers and parliamentary secretaries have not been recognized. We will now call orders of the day and try to give the hon. member for Edmonton Centre and the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond an opportunity to ask their questions tomorrow.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Can the government House leader indicate the business for the rest of this week and next week, particularly with respect to Bill C-125, the second unemployment insurance bill, which the minister implied last Wednesday would follow the present debate? Is it the intention of the government to stand or withdraw that bill for further change in light of the fact that yesterday the New Democratic Party indicated it could not support it in its present form?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, we will continue with the present debate today and continue it until it is completed. When it is completed, today or tomorrow, the next item will be the amendment to the Criminal Code, capital punishment.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacEachen: I wish to advise hon. members that I would like to call very early the bill on the order paper relating to pilotage.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: See what influence you have, Stan.

Mr. MacEachen: After reading the bill, hon. members will understand that it has a certain relevance to the first of February because certain regulations expire unless action is taken by the House. That is why this bill is being brought forward. With regard to the final part of the hon. member's question, if he will just tell me where he stands on that bill, maybe I will be able to decide when to call it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the order of business, may I ask the government House leader to tell us what priority or lack of priority he gives to Bill C-132, the bill having to do with foreign investment. Is that on the list for early consideration—

Mr. Paproski: Only if you want it there, Stan.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): —or will the government consider referring the subject matter of the