

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** That is a possibility, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Gleave:** As a supplementary question, in view of the statement by a spokesman for the Canadian Wheat Board to the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union convention in Saskatoon last week that if credit facilities were improved—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member should ask a question directly and not quote from statements made outside the house.

**Mr. Gleave:** Will the minister clarify the situation at an early date?

**Mr. Pepin:** Now, Mr. Speaker. I said this was a possibility. Before finding out if you should improve your credit facilities you must have a potential market, and we are waiting for such a market before we decide whether to implement the possibility.

#### AIR CANADA

##### POSSIBLE EFFECT ON SAFETY OF WORK DISPUTE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Yesterday and the day before I directed a question to the right hon. Prime Minister concerning extra precautions for air safety regarding Air Canada in view of the slowdown, and the Prime Minister undertook that today the Minister of Transport would answer the question. Is he prepared to do so at the present time? Also, Mr. Speaker, since we are discussing safety may I inquire from the Minister of Transport just how it happened that someone on that turbo train got such a wonderful picture of the accident taking place?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I am assured that the slowdown of Air Canada employees will have no effect whatever on the safety of passengers or air crews.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** How about the other part of my question, Mr. Speaker?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

#### Inquiries of the Ministry BROADCASTING

##### MONOPOLY CONTROL OF MEDIA

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. Some weeks ago in response to a question the hon. gentleman indicated that he would be making a statement on the monopoly ownership or control of broadcasting facilities in Canada. I would like to ask the minister, does he intend to make that statement before Christmas?

[Translation]

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I had indicated in my reply, the first time the hon. member put that question to me, that we and the C.R.T.C. are working on this very complex matter. I believe I also indicated that I was unable to say exactly when a statement could be made in this regard. However, I believe I may say now, with certainty, that the work will not be finished before the Christmas recess.

[English]

**Mr. Dinsdale:** As a supplementary question, would the hon. gentleman inform the house whether he will be incorporating in this statement a reference to the growing monopoly in the ownership of newspapers in Canada?

[Translation]

**Mr. Pelletier:** Mr. Speaker, the matter of press monopolies is only incidental to the work we are now doing. Newspapers would be considered in that perspective only if they are part of an information monopoly with radio and television stations.

While I am on my feet, I would like to refer, if I may, Mr. Speaker, to the question of the Leader of the Opposition yesterday when he inquired about two statements I am said to have made in Winnipeg. I do not know where he got that account, but I made neither of the statements attributed to me which, I believe, prevents them from representing the official position of the government.

[English]

#### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

##### NIGERIA—EXTENSION OF TERM OF OBSERVER TEAM

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the