

tive arrangements are not arrived at there might be a delay.

PROPOSED PASSENGER HEAD TAX—POSSIBILITY OF
CONTRAVENTION OF ICAO GUIDELINES

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I am surprised to hear the minister indicate that he did not get a wire from the International Air Transport Association, but as a supplementary question I wish to ask if he was made aware of the fact that the proposed head tax also contravenes the guidelines established by the ICAO council, in which Canada recently concurred, namely, that such charges as the Department of Transport proposes to impose must not be introduced without prior consultation and, further, that adequate advance notice must be provided?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I shall look into the matter, but I believe that all consultations that had to take place under our international responsibility have been held.

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[English]

DRUGS

SUGGESTED SUMMARY OF FINAL REPORT OF LEDAIN
COMMISSION TO BE DISTRIBUTED FREE OR AT SMALL
COST

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I had wished to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare on the LeDain Commission report but he has just left the chamber. I will ask a related question of the Minister of Labour in his capacity as director of Information Canada. In view of the importance of the final 1,148 page LeDain report, and in view of the fact that at a price of \$7.95 it is very expensive and will not reach many people, does Information Canada intend to bring out a summary that could be distributed free or inexpensively so that LeDain's significant findings can be widely studied, such as the fact that alcohol is the biggest drug problem in Canada today?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would have to consult with my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, to ascertain whether this is the plan of that department. It would then, of course, be up to Information Canada to make distribution, as it does for all publications that emanate from other departments of government.

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FINANCE

SUGGESTED EXCESS PROFITS TAX IN LIGHT OF
INCREASES IN CORPORATION PROFITS IN ORDER TO
PROTECT CONSUMERS

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I return to the subject of food prices and my

Oral Questions

question is addressed to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that the quarterly report of the Food Prices Review Board states that the Canadian economy has undergone a substantial upswing in activity during the last two years, resulting in considerably increased corporation profits, including corporations in the food sector, will the minister now consider the introduction of an excess profits tax as a means of preventing the consumer from being gouged by further higher prices?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I dealt with that on an earlier occasion. This would not be the time to announce it, and I am not sure it would achieve the result that the hon. member thinks it would achieve, but I do agree with her that there has been a tremendous upswing in the economy in the last two years.

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AIR TRANSPORT

REASON FOR CHOOSING PROPOSED PASSENGER HEAD
TAX TO RAISE REVENUE

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to that asked by the hon. member for Vegreville of the Minister of Transport. It has to do with the strong protest sent to the minister by the Director General of IATA. Can the minister state, for the edification of the House, why he has chosen this means of a passenger head tax to raise revenue when he could have accomplished the same thing by increasing landing fees and user charges at airports for the major air carriers?

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will allow the minister to reply briefly, but it seems to me that a question asked in this way is argument rather than a question. The hon. member for Vegreville.

PROPOSED PASSENGER HEAD TAX—REQUEST FOR
POSTPONEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a further question to the Minister of Transport. I wonder whether in view of the obvious haste and clumsiness with which the minister has proceeded in this particular—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has been recognized for the purpose of asking a question, and I think he should ask his question. There is just one minute left before the end of the question period.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, in view of the administrative unworkability of the proposed head tax, which has been attested to by the domestic carriers and now by the international carriers, would the minister now consider postponing application of the head tax until full consultation has been had with both domestic and international air carriers?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the department's opinion is obviously that it is