

Oral Questions

position that members of this co-op should be required to pay tax on the interest earned on 100 per cent of their deposits when these assets were frozen without warning seven months ago, members have not had access to them, and the restructuring proposal only guarantees them 51 per cent of their assets?

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I can tell my colleague that some of this income which they have not received, while it may be considered as deemed income at this time, can be adjusted and compensated for in the next taxation year. At the present time I think that is the only way we can handle it.

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LABOUR RELATIONS**EDMONTON PACKING PLANT DISPUTE**

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister, and it has to do with the Gainers strike in Edmonton. In light of his close relationship with Peter Pocklington, the owner of the plant, and in light of his experience as a labour lawyer for Iron Ore Co. of Canada, I want to ask the Prime Minister, and I wish he would not try to brush it off to somebody else—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Does the Hon. Member have a question?

● (1450)

Mr. Rodriguez: Does the Prime Minister believe it is appropriate that his Government should be forcing the meat inspectors to cross the picket line and, if they do not do so, they should be disciplined? Does he think that appropriate?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker—

An Hon. Member: Let him answer.

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I—

Mr. Blaikie: He is a big boy.

Mr. Mulroney: You would rather have the Deputy Prime Minister? Go ahead.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I was going to take the question for the Minister of Agriculture who is now in the House.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I want to apologize to the House for the delay. I was working out what I hope to be the final details of the Farm Debt Review legislation with my two counterparts across the way. I did not have the benefit of hearing the Hon. Member's entire

question. However, we have been monitoring the very difficult situation there on an hourly basis. The last opportunity I had to check with the progress was yesterday. The fact that there is a labour safety officer on the scene—

Mr. Benjamin: He was talking about meat inspectors.

Mr. Wise: —and we are consulting regularly—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the Minister will have an opportunity to continue that on the supplementary.

ROLE OF MEAT INSPECTORS

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Will he stop kowtowing to his Tory friend, Peter Pocklington, and declare the Gainers plant off limits to inspectors?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, that question is so inaccurate and off base that it does not even deserve a reasonable answer.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**INQUIRY WHETHER GOVERNMENT COLLECTED ALL NECESSARY EVIDENCE CONCERNING ALLEGED TERRORISTS IN AIR-INDIA ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General. A senior RCMP officer stated recently that for several months he has known the names of the alleged terrorists who planted a bomb aboard Air-India Flight 182 over a year ago.

Can the Minister tell the House whether he has sufficient evidence and, if so, whether he will take court action?

[English]

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, the investigation by the RCMP is continuing, with assistance from CSIS. Because it is under way at the present time, no further comment would be appropriate.

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ENERGY**WORLD OIL PRICES—REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR INDUSTRY**

Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The Minister's Parliamentary Secretary has stated that the political reality is that the energy sector will have to wait for assistance from the Government. Even then, the energy industry should not expect too much help. The