

Inquiries of the Ministry

minister make a statement on motions outlining ways and means of increasing housing starts to meet the necessary levels and also to provide employment?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): We think the downage is due to weather conditions. Within the next few days I will be making a statement to the House with regard to the CMHC capital budget, at which time I will try to deal with the matter the hon. member has inquired about.

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POLLUTION

TREAT POSED BY TANKER TRANSPORT OF OIL FROM VALDEZ, ALASKA, TO CHERRY POINT, WASHINGTON

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the unanimous decision by the British Columbia legislature on February 4, 1971, calling on the federal government to stop oil tanker shipments from Alaska to Washington state, I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he has made direct representations to the United States government in an endeavour to halt oil shipments over the route from Valdez, Alaska, to Cherry Point, Washington?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): So far as I know, no definite arrangements have yet been made for any such shipments. We have the situation under very close examination and at the appropriate time we will make representations. We do not think this is the time.

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[Translation]

AIRPORTS

ST. SCHOLASTIQUE—ADVANTAGES OF SITE

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport a question.

Does he agree with some officials of his department who now admit that the site of the St. Scholastique airport, if recommendable from a technical point of view, is not an ideal one with regard to the industrial future of Quebec?

Mr. Speaker: As asked, this question is not admissible.

[English]

TORONTO—PROGRESS ON SELECTING SITE FOR NEW FACILITY

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): My question is also for the Minister of Transport. Now that the four-site option plan for the Metropolitan Toronto airport has been discarded as impractical, is the minister working feverishly or fervently with the other levels of government to arrive soon at a single site for this airport?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, feverishly, earnestly and at the moment

[Mr. Gilbert.]

courteously, I hope, by letting some of my associates at the provincial level of government get past a certain event of some importance which is taking place this week.

Mr. Ryan: Will a decision be taken about the site this year or before the government goes to the country?

Mr. Jamieson: I suppose it could very well depend on whether the hon. gentleman is going to that event and on how he votes. But the point of the matter is that I am waiting to see what kind of new team will be fielded at Queen's Park.

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AIR CANADA

SUGGESTED EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVE INDIAN GIRLS AS STEWARDESSES

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): My question is for the Minister of Transport and it relates to his earlier reply in which he indicated that there is no discrimination in the employment policies of the Department of Transport. As I travel constantly on Air Canada across the country and have yet to see—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I should not interrupt the hon. member's travelogue, but he should ask a question.

An hon. Member: Now we know where you were.

Mr. Rose: I was in full flight when I was interrupted.

Mr. Baldwin: Yes, out of control.

Mr. Rose: I was going to observe that in all my travels with the Committee on Agriculture in the last two weeks I did not see a native Indian employee—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask his question. I am not sure whether his remarks up to now were just introductory, but we have already reached the end of the question period. He should ask his question as quickly as possible.

Mr. Rose: I was about to ask my question, Mr. Speaker. I was about to ask the minister if he would lend his great weight to persuade Air Canada to employ some native Indian girls as air hostesses?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's representation has been noted. I have just pointed out that the question period expired a few moments ago, but the hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand has been trying to ask a question and perhaps he should be recognized.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

WAR VETERANS ALLOWANCES—OLD AGE PENSION AND SUPPLEMENT—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT TO CLEAR UP CONFUSION

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Thank you for allowing me the privilege of ending the question