

Members in the Atlantic provinces continually get requests from small businessmen in the Atlantic region who feel it is imperative to roll back the freight rate increase already granted. The minister has said that this is impossible, but surely he will consider that at the very least the proposed increase for March 1 should be stopped until the policy that he has announced is coming in April, comes before the House? Why does the minister reject this sensible demand of small businessmen in the Atlantic provinces?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I answered that question many times.

Mr. Stanfield: Oh, oh!

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I know that the Leader of the Opposition would never be satisfied with any kind of answer coming from this side.

An hon. Member: Not from you.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think it would be worthwhile, Mr. Speaker, to underline that most of the goods moved in the west were not touched at all by the freeze, whether it was coal, wheat, potash or any other natural resource exploited in that part of the country. To make the statement that it is going to have a very serious effect on the economic life of the west is not true. I am just going to repeat what I said yesterday, that I do not intend to intervene to reimpose the freeze.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Speaker, I asked the minister a question about the Atlantic region and he talks about western Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Answer the question.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. This is true—

An hon. Member: Never the twain shall meet.

An hon. Member: Don't you know right from left, Jean?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): This is true for only one reason, and that is that I answered very extensively yesterday on the maritimes.

Mr. Hees: You are terrific.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION WITH REGARD TO TRAINING COMMAND

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. The minister has not been very definite about the future of Training Command. Could he tell the House if he intends to retain Training Command intact or divide it into three? Does he intend to transfer some of Training Command's training responsibility to the service commands?

Oral Questions

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, no change is contemplated for Training Command at the present time. It will stay as one unit, although it could be changed depending on the location of the new air command.

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IMMIGRATION

CHILEAN REFUGEES—ALLEGATION SOME NOT CHILEAN CITIZENS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the recent revelation that from 50 per cent to 60 per cent of Chilean refugees are alleged not to be Chilean citizens, and in view of the refusal of the government and the minister to reply in a meaningful way to order paper question No. 367, I wonder, now that the minister has announced that we are going to receive more refugees from Chile, if he will tell the Canadian people whether the original refugees were bona fide Chileans or a conglomeration of left wing activists who have found a haven in Chile under President Allende and will the minister answer question No. 367 on the order paper in a meaningful way?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will give consideration to the hon. member's concern and look at the answer to the question on the order paper.

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AIRPORTS

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL—SUGGESTED EARLY SETTLEMENT WITH EXPROPRIATED PARTIES

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Public Works is about a court case in Vancouver concerning the Sea Island airport. I wonder if the minister could advise the House whether his department is considering giving the people of Sea Island the \$1½ million and more they want for their property, similar to the proposals he made to the people of Ste. Scholastique, so that these people can settle with the government and get off their property and the hon. Minister of Transport can get on with his airport?

• (1210)

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member's question or proposal is most interesting. The law officers of the Crown are now in the process of considering appealing the judgment to which the hon. member made reference.