

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I have already answered this question in part on a previous occasion. There are three or four areas of negotiation at the present time. One, as I recall, has to do with the infrastructure of Fort Nelson, and another has to do, not necessarily with a geographic designation but the designation of a particular industry or aspect of it, namely the forest industry in that part of the country. There are one or two others the government is putting forward, but I cannot give the hon. member a specific report on the status of these negotiations at the present time, other than that I have been told progress is being made.

**Mr. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the apparent non-acceptance of applications from that province, could the minister indicate whether, during the negotiations with British Columbia, more stringent criteria have been set for acceptance than for those agreements signed with other provinces?

**Mr. Jamieson:** Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot really give the hon. member an answer on that today because I do not know just how far the talks have progressed at the official level in terms of what the British Columbia government wishes to put into the agreement, but I will make inquiries and hopefully will be able to give a progress report within a short time.

\* \* \*

● (1450)

### NATIONAL PARKS

#### ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS—REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF EXPENDITURE ON EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT

**Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development arising from his most welcome illustration in an Ottawa address on Saturday night that the government has finally decided to accept certain representations from my constituency. I should like to ask the minister whether he is prepared to confirm to the House that \$30 million will be spent on expanding and improving the St. Lawrence Islands National Park located primarily in the constituency of Leeds and partly in Kingston and the Islands.

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

\* \* \*

### INDIAN AFFAIRS

#### SETTLEMENT OF LAND CLAIMS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—RELATIONSHIP TO DISCONTINUANCE OF OFFICES AND SERVICES

**Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and may I tell him that it has nothing to do with the picture of him that was published in the *Prince George Citizen*. In light of the minister's statement in the House of Commons on May 14 to the

effect that that he is prepared to close and phase out the offices and services of his department in areas where native leaders and their people consider it in their interest to do so, can the minister inform the House how he is responding to demands from the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs for immediate action on the cutoff land question and land claims and their determination not to accept any further services from his department's offices in British Columbia?

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, basically we have supported for some time now the position of the Indian people of British Columbia and, more particularly, the position of the Union of B.C. Chiefs vis-à-vis cut-off lands. We feel that so far as this matter is concerned the ball is in the court of the provincial government in Victoria.

**Mr. Oberle:** In light of that, is the minister prepared to phase out the many offices and costly services in British Columbia which the native people there consider to be the major hurdle standing in their way to settling their land claims and to self-determination in areas of cultural, social and economic development?

**Mr. Buchanan:** We are certainly prepared to discuss this aspect. I do not accept the suggestion that there is a high correlation between that and the settlement of either cut-off lands or the broader land claims question. I think these are two clearly separate items.

\* \* \*

### AIR TRANSPORT

#### SUGGESTED RECONSIDERATION OF DIVISION OF TRAFFIC BETWEEN AIR CANADA AND CP AIR AND POSITION OF AIR CANADA IN NEW TRANSPORTATION POLICY

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. However, in his absence perhaps I may direct it to the acting minister or to the parliamentary secretary. Since it has been revealed by Professor Myron Gordon of the University of Toronto in the recent CTC hearings that Air Canada's operation is significantly less efficient than that of CP Air, in spite of the restrictions imposed upon CP Air's transportation policy, can the acting minister say if the government is giving any consideration to reviewing the existing national transcontinental policy which restricts the air capacity of CP Air to 25 per cent of the traffic, so that the beneficiaries in this case might be the passengers who might get a more equitable air fare structure?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Acting Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, of course the minister may be considering this matter within the department, but to the best of my knowledge no change has been made or is contemplated with regard to the transcontinental policy. I have not seen the statements of the professor to whom the hon. member referred, but perhaps it is because the CP structure is less complex than that of Air Canada that he was able to reach the conclusion he did.