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[Translation]

CANADA POST CORPORATION

OPPOSITION TO EMPLOYMENT OF STRIKE-BREAKERS

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister said last week that he would not cross picket lines. It is easy to say so. The Prime Minister may not cross picket lines himself, but he does worse, he pays people to do it for him.

[English]

The man who hires a paid assassin can be charged with murder. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) hires people to cross picket lines. How does he expect not to be guilty of crossing those same picket lines?

[Translation]

The NDP members find that their conscience is troubling them. They hesitate. They do not dare to blame the government. Mr. Speaker, it is time to understand that the Conservative party and the NDP change their mind with the weather. The hiring of strike-breakers by a Crown Corporation is unacceptable today.

[English]

AGRICULTURE

GRAIN TRANSPORTATION—REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PRODUCER CARS

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, producer cars were once entrenched in the Canada Grains Act and there were no limits on the number of producer cars. But this right of farmers has been eroded until last year when farmers were only permitted 10 per cent of the cars allotted for non-board grains. That was bad enough, but now that amount is being reduced to 5 per cent. If this reduction keeps on, we will soon have no cars and that will please the big grain companies that want to hog it all.

If there are difficulties at the ports, or if the problem arises because three bodies allocate cars, then deal with the items causing the problem, but certainly do not do it by reducing the number of producer cars. Producer cars are a free enterprise technique and it induces efficiency.

The Government wants our farmers to be efficient, and here we have a commission placing a roadblock that prevents an efficient operation. The use of producer cars is efficient and enables farmers to use the futures market and avoid the elevator system.

I urge the Government to insist on retaining at least the 10 per cent of cars in effect last year.

LABOUR RELATIONS

STRIKE AT DE HAVILLAND AIRCRAFT PLANT

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, last week 4,100 production, technical and clerical workers went on strike at the de Havilland aircraft plant which is located in my riding of York Centre. The workers rejected the latest offer from de Havilland, which is owned by Boeing Corporation of Seattle, Washington, and walked off the job just 10 hours after their contract expired. There are a number of issues relating to job security about which the workers are concerned.

Unfortunately, a long and painful strike is being predicted, one which will damage the aerospace industry in Canada. The union is accusing Boeing of trying to impose U.S.-style labour relations on the Canadian plant, and Boeing claims that its contract offer is a result of the need to make the plant more efficient.

The strike must be resolved, Mr. Speaker. De Havilland has a long and proud history in the aerospace industry. Its expertise is admired and respected throughout the world, and the Dash-8 commuter plane is world market leader.

A strike is a very stressful time for management, workers, their families, and the affected communities. I urge both sides to get together to try to resolve this strike.

WAR CRIMINALS

EXPEDITIOUS PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION URGED

Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, while it was late, 40 years late, our Government had the moral courage and the political will to present enabling legislation to prosecute war criminals caught here in Canada.

After a thorough and sensitive study by a commission chaired by Mr. Justice Deschênes, the Government responded to the recommendations with a made-in-Canada solution. One of the obstacles was the need to amend the Criminal Code. However, the necessary legislation was tabled in this House last week.

The legislation will permit federal authorities to prosecute persons who have committed war crimes outside Canada against non-Canadians. The legislation also prevents anyone reasonably believed to have committed war crimes from seeking a safe haven here in Canada.

From the initiating of the Deschênes Commission by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) to the drafting and the tabling of the required legislation by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn), this has been a very difficult process, due in large part to the acute risk of divisiveness within communities. I want to commend the Minister of Justice for his sensitivity and understanding of this most delicate issue.