

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I have nothing to add to what I have already said; but since my hon. friend refers to a reported statement of Mr. George Ball I will have to examine that statement. I did not know he made it.

**Mr. Churchill:** It was in the *London Times*.

[Translation]

#### POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

ALBERTA—REQUEST FOR A CHANGE OF SIGNS ON POST OFFICE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Postmaster General.

Can the minister tell us whether he has received any representations from two Conservative members of Alberta to have the signs changed on an Alberta post office so as to indicate that English has priority over French?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. This question is not urgent and cannot be put at this time.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, it is urgent because the signs have just been changed and as long as they are allowed to stay as they are now, it shows—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. They can always be changed later.

[English]

#### GRAIN

WHEAT—SHIPMENTS TO RUSSIA THROUGH CHURCHILL

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Yesterday in answer to a question the minister mentioned that in the contract signed between the wheat board and the Soviet union, provision is made for shipments to go through Churchill if that is the wish of the U.S.S.R. Can the minister say whether the officials of the U.S.S.R. were made fully aware of the beneficial savings which could be made by them in accepting some of this wheat through Churchill?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance):** Yes, I can assure my hon. friend that we are all great proponents of the port of Churchill.

**Mr. Simpson:** Mr. Speaker, my question was whether the Russians were made aware of the savings that can be made by them.

**Mr. Sharp:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can give the hon. member that assurance also.

#### Inquiries of the Ministry

**Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale):** My question is supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister of Finance not arrange for the Russian delegation to tour the port of Churchill so they can see for themselves the benefits they will gain by accepting shipments of wheat out of that port?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure Your Honour has heard the question.

#### VETERANS AFFAIRS

INCREASES IN PROVINCIAL WELFARE PAYMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED AS INCOME

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens):** I wish to address a question to the Acting Minister of Veterans Affairs. Can he tell me whether any veterans, especially in Prince Edward Island, who are in receipt of war veterans allowance have been informed by D.V.A. that if they accept any increase in the old age assistance or other welfare benefits paid by the provincial government these benefits will be considered as income, and therefore their war veterans allowances will be reduced by the same amount?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Acting Minister of Veterans Affairs):** May I take this question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

#### OIL

INQUIRY AS TO REVISION OF NATIONAL POLICY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. R. Ballard (Calgary South):** I wish to address a question to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys. Will the minister please advise us when we may expect a statement from him respecting the updating of the national oil policy? Will he advise us what goals will be set, and the dates on which these goals are to be achieved?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys):** That would require a speech, Mr. Speaker.

#### FINANCE

PURCHASE OF EQUITIES IN U.S. COMPANIES IN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Max Saltzman (Waterloo South):** I wish to address my question to the Minister of Finance with regard to the statement he made earlier today. In view of the fact that the minister will be seeking permission to