

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Kootenay West.

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BANKRUPTCY

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE HERITAGE OF CANADA—
REASON FOR PERMITTING CLOSE ALIGNMENT WITH OFFICE
OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is addressed to the Secretary of State. I should like to ask the minister if he is able to tell the House and the country why an apparent massive fraud by the Society for the Study of the Heritage of Canada, which aligned itself so closely with the Secretary of State's office in terms of grants, deceptive wording and stationery, was allowed to operate without the apparent knowledge of the minister or monitoring by him or his department?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Well, Mr. Speaker, without accepting the language of the question, what I have done in response to the question raised by his colleague yesterday was to pull together the material and I would be pleased to share it when it is together which should be tomorrow or the next day.

Mr. Speaker: One supplementary by the hon. member for Kootenay West.

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AIR CANADA

EXTENT OF INVOLVEMENT WITH HERITAGE CANADA—
REASON FOR ISSUING BOTH FIRST AND ECONOMY CLASS
PASSES TO EMPLOYEES OF TRAVEL COMPANIES

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the Minister of Transport. Would the Minister of Transport advise the House to what extent the society is involved with Air Canada and the Canadian Transportation Commission and why it is that the practice of Air Canada seems to be to issue both first-class and economy passes to the employees of private companies engaged in the travel industry. Is this a practice of Air Canada, and why is it being allowed to continue?

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry, but I have great difficulty relating that question to a supplementary by the hon. member.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—POSSIBILITY OF MEETINGS WITH FARM GROUPS
IN SEEKING CONSENSUS ON RESTRAINT

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Minister of Finance. I should like the minister to tell the House whether in his attempt to seek a consensus on restraint he is communicating with

[Mr. McGrath.]

the representatives of the primary agricultural producers of this country who have been hit the hardest by inflation. We want to make sure that the new program put forward will not give them the short end of the stick, once again, as has been the case in the past.

Hon. C. M. Drury (Acting Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, at an earlier stage there were meetings with representatives of the agricultural industry across Canada. They were quite extensive meetings. There have been continuing consultations by the Minister of Agriculture with these groups.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Acting Minister of Finance would agree to make a statement in the House concerning what plans there are for agriculture in the restraint program proposed by the government.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I should like to look into that question before giving an answer.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

REASON FOR DELAYING INQUIRY INTO ACTIVITIES OF
SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I am wondering whether the Prime Minister would confirm or deny to the House that one of the factors in the intolerable delay and stalling in respect of setting up a public inquiry into the SIU is that a number of the ministers of his cabinet including, I am lead to believe, the Prime Minister himself received some type of assistance during the election campaign.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Moose Jaw.

Mr. Lawrence: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Northumberland-Durham on a point of order.

Mr. Lawrence: Is that question out of order, Mr. Speaker, and if so, why?

Mr. Speaker: There is no obligation on any minister to answer any question. If there is no answer forthcoming, there is no need to pursue it.

Mr. Lawrence: I believe he is ready to answer.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Moose Jaw.

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AGRICULTURE

GRASSHOPPER INFESTATION—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF
SUPPLY OF CHEMICALS TO COMBAT

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the forecast