

all members of the House to support the government in trying to cut back on some of these programs.

**An hon. Member:** What government?

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** Ask them in Nova Scotia.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Whenever my hon. friend wants to test the water in Nova Scotia federally, we will be ready.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Bell:** Or anywhere else, even Quebec.

**Mr. Hees:** How would you like to test us in Ontario and New Brunswick? We are willing.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** You are like corpses over there.

**Mr. Crouse:** Sitting right there is the only member from Nova Scotia you will ever have, and you are not going to hold him.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Perhaps we might have order. I believe the Leader of the Opposition has a supplementary question.

**Mr. Stanfield:** My supplementary is quite specific. In view of the intense inflationary pressures in the country and the very sharp escalation in the rate of expenditures by the government, does the Prime Minister propose to bring before the House in the near future any firm plan to moderate the rate of increase in the expenditures of his government?

**Mr. Trudeau:** If I might comment on the noise which accompanied the Leader of the Opposition's talk—

**Mr. Hees:** That is not what you were asked to do. We are sorry, but you cannot.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the Prime Minister that he should not.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

\* \* \*

### COMBINES

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF PRICE INCREASES BY ASPHALT ROOFING MANUFACTURERS AND POSSIBLE CREATION OF ARTIFICIAL SHORTAGE OF BUILDING MATERIALS

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the reported price increase of 10 per cent imposed on April 1 by all three manufacturers of asphalt roofing—Building Products Limited, Canadian Gypsum, and Domtar Limited—and having in mind that during 1973 the price of asphalt roofing rose by almost 20 per cent over the price in 1972, will the minister instruct the director of investigation under the Combines Investigation Act to find out whether there is a conspiracy on the part of this cartel to fix prices?

### Oral Questions

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to draw this matter to the attention of the combines investigation branch.

**Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway):** In view of the past record of this cartel in the matter of price fixing, will the minister instruct the director of investigation under the Combines Investigation Act to determine whether this cartel has deliberately brought about an artificial shortage of building materials through restriction of trade, thus contributing to the soaring costs of new housing and housing repairs?

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, it is the responsibility of the director in carrying out an inquiry to look into all aspects in order to determine whether or not there has been an offence against the act.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### AIR CANADA

TRANSFER FROM MONTREAL TO WINNIPEG OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS FOR BOEING 727 AIRCRAFT

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

In view of the answer that he gave in the House on Friday, March 22, 1974, following a question put by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre, has he had any further contact with Air Canada concerning the closing of the overhaul base for Boeing 727's and its transfer to Winnipeg?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** No, Mr. Speaker, there has been no contact on this specific point. Ongoing discussions are taking place with Air Canada. No decision has been made yet, to my knowledge, by Air Canada and the situation is exactly as before. Anyhow, for the information of the hon. member for Champlain, I will say that our relations with Air Canada are as good as those with France.

**Mr. Rondeau:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport.

How long does he think it will be before Air Canada is in a position to inform the minister of its decision on this important matter?

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I think that the hon. member knows about the status of Air Canada. The decision must be made by that corporation, and as soon as I am told about it, I shall be pleased to inform the hon. member for Shefford.