

● (1450)

[Translation]

COMBINES

PROPOSED INQUIRY BY BRYCE COMMISSION INTO FORMATION OF MONOPOLIES FOR SALE OF BREWERY GRAIN

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, today I wish to put a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Yesterday, as reported by *Hansard* at page 10,044, I put a question to his colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, concerning the skyrocketing prices of secondary cattle feed, brewery grain in particular. As these unexpected increases may be caused by the advent of monopolies in the brewery grain business, would he be willing to order the required inquiry or, if need be, to put the matter to the Bryce Commission, and make sure that a monopoly is not now in the process of being created or, if one already exists, that it be dissolved?

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I must remind the hon. member that the Bryce Commission was not set up to deal with such problems. On the other hand, the director of combines investigations will certainly be advised of the comments of the hon. member. In addition, I should like to remind the hon. member that every time the director deems an investigation necessary, he orders one, but the matter is kept confidential.

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POST OFFICE

INQUIRY IF DEPARTMENT WILL PURCHASE ADVERTISING IN "LE JOUR"

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Postmaster General.

We saw yesterday in the Montreal daily *Le Jour* excellent publicity for and an excellent photo of the Postmaster General who was handing over a commemorative plaque to the editor for his achievement in journalism. Since the minister has also outlined Mr. Michaud's outstanding achievement in establishing and maintaining a new newspaper in North America, I would like to ask the minister whether after having himself benefitted from this publicity he intends to recommend that his department pay for publicity in this newspaper?

[English]

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Well, Mr. Speaker, I did participate in the awards given by the Montreal press club, and I did congratulate Mr. Michaud on his ability to create a new newspaper. I happen to believe that our system of federalism permits the ultimate freedom of speech and permits the creation of newspapers like *Le Jour*. I also made the point, however, that as a federalist I did not intend to finance the movement of the separatists through advertising by our department. If the hon. gentleman finds himself more compatible reading that newspaper than others, that is up to him. It is a very free country.

*Oral Questions***AIR TRANSPORT**

ALLEGED EXCESSIVE CHARGES BY AIR CANADA AND EASTERN PROVINCIAL IN NEW BRUNSWICK—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. Maurice Harquail (Restigouche): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the excessive passenger fares being charged by Eastern Provincial Airways and Air Canada compared to other airlines in New Brunswick, would the minister kindly investigate the reason for the overcharge to passengers using the airport facilities at Charlo airport in New Brunswick serving northern New Brunswick and the Gaspé coast? Would the minister also ask the Canadian Transport Commission to investigate these unfair rates charged out of Charlo, New Brunswick?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, may I thank the hon. member for bringing this problem to my attention. It does seem peculiar to see these differences in rates between the single airline total fare and the combination of two airlines, but I will be glad to investigate the matter and report again in due course.

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TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—APPLICATION TO PARTS

Mr. Bill Kempling (Halton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. After the minister's astute remarks in this House yesterday, I am convinced that he must be aware that the Auto Parts Manufacturers Association feels that the auto pact offers them insufficient coverage and has said that "the safeguards incorporated into the auto pact, such as Canadian value added and production to sales ratio have failed", would the minister please explain how he could say that the auto pact covers parts for all practical purposes?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I do not think this is the kind of answer that I can give in a few words. I have said that so far as the auto pact is concerned there was, of course, inclusion of auto parts, but I am aware, as the hon. member is, that the Auto Parts Manufacturers Association has been making representations. I have listened to them and I will continue my discussions with them, and if there are to be changes in the auto pact we will try to accommodate them as best we can. Obviously, at the moment I cannot go beyond that.

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AIR TRANSPORT

GOVERNMENT POSITION ON ALLEGED COMMITMENT TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING PRAIRIE AIR SERVICE

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. As the minister has now shot down Skywest and the Manitoba and Saskatche-