

the office of president of Air Canada has been vacant for several months, and in view of the fact that the former president has made a very strong recommendation for a replacement in that post from within the ranks of Air Canada, could the Prime Minister advise the house when we may expect an announcement regarding the new president of Air Canada?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the question could be answered in this way, that there is a minister who is making a recommendation to the government after having studied this question very deeply and I hope that very soon—the eternal “soon”—we will be able to name this gentleman.

**Mr. Hees:** As a supplementary question, in view of the fact that this matter is being considered would the Prime Minister assure the house that the decision will be made on the basis of the man's qualifications, rather than political patronage?

**Mr. Speaker:** That question is argumentative.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** As a further supplementary question, would the Prime Minister give a firm assurance that there will not be a division of the responsibilities formerly carried out by the president of Air Canada?

**Mr. Trudeau:** No, Mr. Speaker. It is possible that we will want to consider the matter of restructuring the line of authority in Air Canada.

**Mr. Bell:** Is the Prime Minister suggesting he is considering a two president policy, something like the two flag policy of the Liberal government?

#### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

##### REQUEST FOR INCREASED PENSIONS FOR RETIRED EMPLOYEES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport I should like to direct a question to the Minister without Portfolio, the hon. member for Winnipeg South (Mr. Richardson). Will the new government take up with the Canadian National Railways the question of increasing the pensions of retired employees of the C.N.R.? I think the hon.

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#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

member for Winnipeg South would like to reply to this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** I assume the hon. member is directing his question to the minister, not to the hon. member for Winnipeg South.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** That is right. I was just identifying which minister I meant. If the Minister without Portfolio does not wish to reply now, perhaps he would be ready to answer my question at ten o'clock.

#### CONSUMER AFFAIRS

##### DANGER ARISING FROM DISPOSABLE BOTTLES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Max Saltzman (Waterloo):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whether his attention has been drawn to the resolution of the city of Kitchener which points out the danger to the public arising from disposable bottles? If this serious matter has been drawn to his attention I would like to know whether he intends to conduct an investigation?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the hon. member's very interesting question ought to be placed on the order paper.

[Translation]

#### INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

**Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Prime Minister.

Since the *Toronto Star* is acting like the *Pravda* at the present time, can the Prime Minister assure the house that there will be no leak of highly confidential information from the R.C.M.P.?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Dumont:** Could the Prime Minister not order the R.C.M.P. to keep silent as he does his ministers?

• (12 noon)

[English]

#### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

##### CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed, from Friday, September 20, consideration of the motion of Mr. Eymard Corbin for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.