

Inquiries of the Ministry

Friday and the situation is serious, according to the information received. I am simply asking the Minister of Agriculture whether he will do something to alleviate this emergency situation. If the government's attitude is represented by those "oh's" and "ah's", well—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

Is the hon. member for Lapointe rising on the point of order?

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, although we tried in the past to ask this question and although it was rejected because it was not urgent, we think that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker), with his parliamentary experience, succeeded in putting it properly, and in pointing out the urgency, and we would be pleased, although you ruled out this question earlier, if you allowed it now, because we think it is urgent. We thank the right hon. Leader of the Opposition for putting it as he did, in conformity with the rules.

Mr. Speaker: I am indebted to the hon. member for Lapointe for his generosity and I ask the Minister of Agriculture to answer his question.

[*English*]

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I understand that action is being taken. In view of the urgency of the matter I will certainly look into it immediately after orders of the day, and do everything I can to help meet the situation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

AIR CANADA**APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR IN
LABOUR DISPUTE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of information to the effect that the parties to the Air Canada dispute are prepared to meet with each other, will the minister consider offering to the parties at an early date the appointment of a top flight mediator?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am still awaiting the report of the conciliation board.

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Mr. Knowles: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour. Has the report of the conciliation board not been turned down, and have we not reached the stage where the next step must be anticipated?

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Speaker, the minister first has to get the report. I have not received it yet.

Mr. Knowles: Page the Postmaster General.

FINANCE**INQUIRY AS TO TAXATION COMMISSION
REPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. I wonder whether the minister could tell us approximately when he expects to receive the Carter report and make it available to the house.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, my office has been in touch with Mr. Carter, the chairman of the royal commission, within the last few days, and I understand from him that the English text of the report should be available in the latter half of June. It had been his intention that the French text would be available shortly thereafter, but unfortunately the chief translator for the commission became seriously ill and had to retire. As a result the French text will be somewhat delayed.

Mr. Hamilton: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Do I understand that the English text will be made available to the members of the house as soon as it is ready rather than await the French translation?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, in ordinary circumstances I would have answered in the negative. However, when the report is available, the government will have to consider this question. Because of the very special circumstances surrounding this report and the great public interest in its contents, as well as the urgency in respect of making it public, we have not made up our minds as to what course to follow.

BROADCASTING**INQUIRY AS TO PRODUCTION OF WHITE PAPER**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary