

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Have any instructions been issued to elevator companies requiring them to have space available for marketable grain such as flax and rapeseed?

**Mr. Lang:** That is a pretty broad question. I do not know whose instructions are being referred to, but I will certainly investigate whether any instructions have been given by the Wheat Board in this regard.

**Mr. Skoberg:** Can the Minister tell the House whether he has assumed any responsibility in this regard or whether he is leaving it up to the elevator companies?

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister determined from his examination of the situation whether in fact flax orders were shifted from Canada to the United States, and has his investigation of the situation led to the conclusion that flax should be brought under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board?

**Mr. Lang:** With regard to the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker, my investigations are not complete. With regard to the second part, this is a broad question which indeed does deserve and may well be the subject of further consideration by the House later this year.

**INFORMATION****REQUESTED REFERENCE OF TASK FORCE REPORT TO COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister concerning the report of the task force on information to which the Prime Minister has made reference in the House recently. Would the Prime Minister consider having the task force report sent to a House committee for study and recommendation, thereby helping the government in formulating its policy on this very important but potentially dangerous course of action?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, as I indicated when I tabled the task force report, the government intends to make a statement on its own policy before the end of the year. If the House wants to examine the report in a committee, of course we could consider this. Another way of proceeding would be for the members who have constructive ideas on the subject to make

[Mr. Lang.]

speeches or let us know their thoughts. I was surprised that in the debate which just ended there were not very many constructive suggestions on this topic; however, members may have some ideas.

**Mr. Macquarrie:** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I cannot reflect upon the right hon. gentleman's lack of taste or otherwise. In the meantime and in accordance with its proclamations of austerity, has the government decided to put a freeze on the hiring of information and public relations officers for the staffs of individual ministers?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, this particular aspect of a freeze has not been the object of any government announcement, but I confess to the House that in our view information is perhaps the most important single subject which is facing not only this government but all governments in Canada. We intend to do as much as we can to correct the lack of proper information available to the people of Canada so that they will know they live in a federal state and that the federal government is very much present in their lives.

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

**TRANSPORT****ALLEGED LACK OF ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS, ETC. BY AIR TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Charles H. Thomas (Moncton):** My question, Mr. Speaker, is directed to the Minister of Transport. Is the Minister aware that the Air Transport Association of Canada has charged that the Air Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission is not enforcing its own regulations, orders and directions, and that the association has passed an unprecedented vote of non-confidence in the committee?

**Mr. Speaker:** I have some doubts as to the form in which the question is asked. The hon. member is simply asking whether the minister is aware of a certain situation. Perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply.

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware of it and in fact have already discussed it with the officials, including the chairman of the Air Transport Association. I think perhaps there was a certain amount of misunderstanding on both sides. The difficulty appears to have arisen because of an inadequacy in some of the older legislation having to do with the