## Inquiries of the Ministry

### **AIRPORTS**

#### TORONTO—SELECTION OF NEW SITE

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Transport whether he is in a position to give any information to the House as to what, if anything, is happening regarding the new airport location for the metropolitan Toronto area?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Not a great deal more than when I answered a question a few days ago, Mr. Speaker. Proposals have been made to the province of Ontario. The last word I had from them was about two days ago, indicating that they needed a week or ten days to complete their review of them. I am ready to meet them whenever they so indicate.

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask whether any target date has been set within the department for making an announcement on this important subject in order that both levels of government can work toward meeting that deadline?

Mr. Woolliams: It will leak out, don't worry.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a date because it would be my hope the decision would be one made jointly by the province and ourselves. That is our intention, and everything will depend on just how quickly our negotiations with them can be completed.

#### POST OFFICE

INTEGRATION OF URBAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES—COMPENSATION TO CONTRACTORS FOR LOSS OF REVENUE

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General, and I might say I leaked this question to him just before 11 o'clock.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

**Mr. Bell:** Further to the plan to integrate urban transportation services, and further to the assurances that have been given that there will be compensation for the salaries of employees and for equipment, would the government also consider extras for dislocations that the contractors personally might suffer in view of the three-year term of the contracts they are going to lose?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, the only information I can leak now is that I do not know if there will be compensation, although assurance was given in respect to the purchase of their trucks and their equipment. Some of them will even be asked to be integrated into the Post Office Department. In addition they have the assurance that we have to give them at least three months' notice before cancellation of the contract. If the hon. member is talking about other compensation on top of that because of the loss of business that might have been had over the years, I do not know what the final criteria will be.

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

# NEGOTIATIONS WITH LETTER CARRIERS UNION ON HIRING OF CASUALS

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, may I say by way of preface that we are pleased to see that the Postmaster General has agreed to meet with the letter carriers union to negotiate—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask his question. I must bring to the attention of the hon. member for Brandon-Souris and others that there are less than ten minutes left before the end of the question period.

**Mr.** Dinsdαle: Mr. Speaker, my comments were related to the question I am going to ask.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member has been here long enough to know that he should not make comments before asking a question. The hon. member should ask his question.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, may I put it in these terms. Now that the Postmaster General has agreed to meet with the letter carriers union to negotiate an agreement on the casual hiring issue pending an appeal to the Public Service Staff Relations Board, will he inform the House when this very important meeting will take place?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, that very important meeting has taken place. I received a letter from the president of the letter carriers union at 12 o'clock noon yesterday and we met at two o'clock in my office. The decision we took at that time was that we would have further meetings between officials of my department and officials of the union all next week.

#### SCIENCE

PROPOSED INSTITUTE TO STUDY PROBLEMS OF POPULATION GROWTH—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of State for Science and Technology. In light of his statement at the time of his appointment last August that one of his first tasks would be to examine the recommendation of the Science Council for the creation of an institute to study the problems of population growth, is he prepared to give an early report on the results of his examination?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I am sure hon. members will appreciate that on occasion one is misquoted. I was answering a question at that time as to the relationship of the Science Council to the ministry and the recommendation in their report on population control on a world-wide basis. I indicated that that and other recommendations of the Science Council would be taken under study by my ministry.

**Mrs. MacInnis:** Mr. Speaker, can the minister give us an indication of the gestation period required for the birth of this forthcoming report?