

Oral Questions

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE**EFFECT OF LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE ON SUPPLY OF FEED GRAIN—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

Mr. Marcel Roy (Laval): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture, who is responsible for the Canadian Livestock Feed Board.

Following the longshoremen's strike in the ports of Montreal, Trois-Rivières and Quebec, and in view of the impossibility of unloading grain in those ports, has the minister been informed that the millers no longer have any grain to manufacture feed stuff, and if so, does he intend to get in touch with the authorities concerned to supply eastern producers with grain economically?

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, according to the report that I had just before coming to the House, there are still some supplies and we are doing everything we can to make sure that those who are in the most direct need of extra supplies will be looked after. I am awaiting a further report later on this afternoon on just what the present situation is.

[Translation]

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture, a question which is supplementary to that of my colleague from Laval (Mr. Roy).

In view of the numerous telegrams received from the millers of the province of Quebec to the effect that the supplies in livestock feed grains are excessively limited, and since it is said that the reserves will last only a few days, can the minister tell the House whether he intends to take drastic measures to make possible at least the delivery of the livestock feed grains which are in the warehouses, in the elevators of the province of Quebec, in order to prevent speculation, the rise of prices or the massive slaughtering of animals?

[English]

Mr. Whelan: We intend to do what is within our jurisdiction to make sure that proper feed supplies, which are usually provided in this part of Canada, are provided to the livestock and poultry feeders and to make sure that there are no exorbitant rip-offs or extra charges.

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AIRPORTS**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS TO LESSEN NOISE AT VANCOUVER IN DECIDING ON CONSTRUCTION AT PICKERING**

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): My question is addressed to the Minister of Transport. In the light of the fact that the Ministry of Transport has published material relating to the proposed airport at Vancouver indicating that it is feasible to lessen appreciably the noise impact of aircraft, will the minister take this into account in considering whether there is any necessity to proceed with the

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

Pickering airport as the Malton airport could be expanded without appreciably increasing the noise factor there?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I regret but I see no relationship between the two. The government has decided to proceed with Pickering and we will proceed with it along the lines stated.

PICKERING—REQUEST FOR PLEBISCITE BEFORE CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Would the minister, consistent with what he and the Prime Minister have said, provide for a plebiscite in the whole area affected, which includes the city of Toronto, before proceeding with the airport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the Prime Minister said; he can speak for himself. But I know that I never promised any plebiscite. The only thing I said is that if ever the whole population of metro Toronto did not want an airport, we would not build one against their will.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**APPOINTMENT OF DRUG PROSECUTORS IN KITCHENER-WATERLOO—REASON FOR APPOINTMENT OF LIBERALS AND FAILURE TO CONSULT MEMBER**

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Would he explain, perhaps today or later this week on motions, the circumstances leading up to his appointment of three federal drug prosecutors in Kitchener-Waterloo who are all directors of the local Liberal Association, and particularly why local opposition members of parliament were not consulted about these appointments when the minister felt it necessary to consult the local government member to obtain his suggestions.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I can refer the hon. member to a couple of answers to order paper questions in the past years explaining in careful detail the manner in which the Minister of Justice takes his responsibility for appointing agents across the country. I find that hon. members opposite frequently notice that there seem to be more qualified Liberal lawyers than others, but that may simply be a part of the process.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS**LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE IN QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO SETTLE**

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): My question is directed to the Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of Labour. Can the Prime Minister tell us what initiatives, if any, his government is taking to achieve a settlement of the stevedoring strikes in Mont-