

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Wellington.

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#### POST OFFICE

##### SUGGESTED REINSTITUTION OF SIX-DAY DELIVERY TO PROVIDE JOBS FOR UNEMPLOYED

**Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Post Office. Before asking my question I should like to congratulate him on his efforts to restore the next-day delivery that Canadians were accustomed to having before his colleague—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. We are running short of time and the hon. member should ask his question.

**Mr. Hales:** In view of the great amount of unemployment in the country, would the minister consider reinstating six-day delivery, thus creating jobs for many unemployed Canadians?

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Minister without Portfolio):** Mr. Speaker, as I said in reply previously to the leader of the hon. member's party, the recommendation of the Davey report is under study. If this service were now reinstated, I do not think it would be especially for the purpose of reducing the number of unemployed in the country because I think this problem will be solved very shortly.

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#### HOUSING

##### SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND BANK

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister in charge of housing. In view of an excellent article in the *Toronto Telegram* in December by the hon. member for Trinity, wherein he said that the Canadian housing situation is bad and getting worse and that the government missed an excellent opportunity—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Would the hon. member ask his question without citing the article.

**Mr. Gilbert:** I think all hon. members should read this article, Mr. Speaker. He said that the government had missed an excellent opportunity in not implementing the recommendation regarding setting up a municipal land bank. Would the minister reconsider that recommendation and perhaps implement it in the near future?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member's question is in the form of a submission and recommendation. He has to assume that the matter will be considered by the minister.

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#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

#### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

##### DISCONTINUANCE OF DINING CAR SERVICE, OTTAWA-MONTREAL

**Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Has the minister received any news from Canadian National Railways that they will suspend their plan to discontinue dining car service between Montreal and Ottawa on February 1, which action will further contribute to the unemployment problem and to the seriously deteriorating rail service between the national capital and the metropolis of Montreal?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** No, Mr. Speaker, I have received no such word from the CNR.

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, would the minister consider amending the Canadian National Railways Act so as to make that body more responsible to the people of Canada—

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

**Mr. Allmand:** —and to ensure that the Canadian people will get the service they expect of a national railway?

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#### CROWN CORPORATIONS

##### AIR CANADA, CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS—SUGGESTED REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING AVOIDANCE OF EMPLOYEE LAY-OFFS

**Mr. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. Would the government of Canada approach those in charge of crown corporations such as Air Canada, Canadian National Railways and others and seek their co-operation in avoiding lay-offs—particularly at a time of heavy winter unemployment—which can only aggravate the already deplorable unemployment situation in this country?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is a little behind with his request; this was done some weeks ago by the government.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, is the Acting Prime Minister able to assure the House that the government has received an assurance from these crown corporations that the request of the government will be complied with and that there will be no further lay-offs of the sort announced by Air Canada and the CNR during this season of winter discontent?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would want the CNR, Air Canada and other