## Oral Questions

## **AIRPORTS**

IMPROVEMENT OF FACILITIES AT MOUNT HOPE— MAINTENANCE OF NORDAIR SERVICE BY QUEBECAIR

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. I want to make one final approach—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): —on the future plans for Mount Hope airport before Parliament takes off for the summer recess.

An hon. Member: That is in Hamilton.

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Will the minister please tell us when he will be in a position to announce a decision on this matter which is so vital to the entire Hamilton-Niagara-Brantford region? Before he answers "soon", can he say how soon is soon?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, I am sure that my hon. friend, when he goes home, has noticed some improvement taking place at the Hamilton airport. There is new paving on the runways and I presume he is more comfortable now when he lands.

With respect to the over-all program for Hamilton, this is being studied now in the general context of expenditures on airports. I hope to have news for him when he comes back in the fall.

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, I am delighted the minister can confirm that some of the grass is being paved at the Mount Hope airport. However, I would really like to know whether the minister can confirm the sale of Hamilton civic airport's prime carrier, Nordair, to the owners of Quebecair, and can he assure the people of my area that Nordair's service into and out of Hamilton will be maintained under its new ownership?

Mr. Pepin: Madam Speaker, I am quite sure that no purchaser of the company would relinquish the privilege and advantage of serving Hamilton. But I will be making very sure of that before a sale is made.

## VICTORIA—PROVISION OF RADAR EQUIPMENT

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, my question is also to the Minister of Transport. Is the minister aware that within the last 13 months, at an airport without radar, there have been 19 near misses, many of which could have been avoided had radar been in place?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, we have this afternoon and on other days a clear indication of the needs that Canadian airports have with respect to equipment, runways, terminals, etc. We are trying to satisfy most of these wishes while living within our means.

With respect to radar at Victoria, as I indicated in a letter that I have written to my hon. friend, it is in the program. We do not think Victoria is endangered by the situation that exists now. The hon. member can disagree with that, however. But it is within our program to include these facilities at Victoria.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, it is quite obvious that the minister is not aware that on two successive days on the landing flight path, small aircraft ran into parachutists that were not announced either to the control tower or to the pilot of the aircraft.

An hon. Member: Liberal candidates.

An hon. Member: It was Mackasey.

Mr. Hees: They were those twinning fellows.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): On the second occasion the pilot had to dodge as many as 30 parachutists. They were American parachutists on the flight path, but within the control area of the control tower. Does this, at last, convince the minister that there is a new priority that ought to be assigned to the establishment of radar at Victoria international airport?

Mr. Pepin: No, Madam Speaker. I am aware of two near misses, one that took place at Victoria and one at Vancouver in recent days. I checked on that this morning, and inquiries are being made by the Department of Transport, which is the normal procedure in these matters.

## THE CONSTITUTION

INPUT OF NATIVE GROUPS IN DISCUSSIONS

Hon. Jake Epp (Provencher): Madam Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Prime Minister. Given the numerous representations which the government has received from various native groups, the FFHQ and others, for meaningful input into the current constitutional process, has the government now decided on an appropriate means to ensure that the special concerns of groups such as these will be heard in the process?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the hon. member will remember that following our meeting on June 9 with the premiers, I reported to the House that I had suggested some enlarged type of forum, such as the one suggested by my friend, the Leader of the NDP.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Is he still your friend?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, that was a wasted word: he is not even listening.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!