

*Oral Questions*

of Ontario and in the minister's statement on January 30 he indicated that the inquiry would be a tri-level inquiry with the co-operation of the province, and as it would appear now that the province is—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Is the hon. member asking a question? I seek the co-operation of hon. members to ask questions as briefly as possible. The hon. member might come to the question now.

**Mr. Danson:** Can the minister assure us that every effort was made to have the province of Ontario participate fully in this inquiry under the terms of reference and the composition of the board?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Everything was done, Mr. Speaker. I hope that the province of Ontario, even if they did not participate in the terms of reference for the board or the nomination of the commission, will appear before the board and make a contribution so that we will have the best report possible, if ever it is decided that we have one.

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**POST OFFICE**

NEW POSTBOX PROGRAM TO EXPEDITE MAIL—REQUEST FOR POLICIES CONCENTRATING ON EFFICIENCY RATHER THAN IMAGERY

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Postmaster General perhaps I could direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the latest innovation of the Post Office Department involving a complicated arrangement of four different postboxes, described as long-term planning and streamlining, and the disastrous results of similar innovations of this kind in the past, and in view of the Prime Minister's expressed interest in speeding up the mails, would the right hon. gentleman urge the Postmaster General to emphasize policies concentrating on efficiency rather than gimmickry?

**Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to draw that question to the attention of the Postmaster General and ask him to reply to the hon. member.

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Richmond.

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** I thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Postmaster General has gone out for a few seconds, I shall await his return.

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[English]

**AIR CANADA**

DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT AT TORONTO AIRPORT BY EXPLOSION AND FIRE

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trans-

[Mr. Danson.]

port. Has he anything to report to the House on the accident involving a DC-8 jetliner at Toronto airport last evening?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the only thing I know is that a team of inspectors is in Toronto now. I hope I will get a report before the end of the day, but I do not know anything else.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Can the minister assure the House and the country that a full scale independent inquiry will be launched into this accident and that the findings will be made public in view of the loss of lives that could have occurred?

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I shall wait for the report of the team of inspectors and we will then see if it is necessary to go farther.

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**COMBINES**

APPARENT USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AS LOSS LEADER BY TWO WHOLESALE GROCERS TO DRIVE SMALL FIRMS OUT OF BUSINESS

**Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Can the minister indicate to the House what progress is being made in investigating the allegations made to him by independent tobacco and confectionery wholesalers with regard to loss leader efforts being undertaken by grocery wholesale distributors in the Montreal and Ottawa areas?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, officials of the combines branch are studying the material provided to them by the distributors to see if a question arises under any of the provisions of the act. This work is not completed yet.

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[Translation]

**AGRICULTURE**

DAIRYING—INCREASE IN PRODUCTION COSTS IN QUEBEC AND ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

My question concerns the one which I asked yesterday afternoon, and I quote:

Considering the continuing and very rapid raise of production costs for farmers, particularly in Quebec and Ontario, does the minister intend to announce soon a new increase in grants for industrial milk?

Since the hon. minister replied that he was meeting with the officials of certain boards yesterday, I would like to ask him whether he intends to make a statement on this matter soon, in the House?