

Railways were not in a position to say definitely whether they could handle the transportation of this wheat to Churchill?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, a discussion has been going on between the wheat board and the railway companies on this important point, and neither side has satisfied the other yet.

Mr. Simpson: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that we have a definite conflict of answers coming from the treasury benches. I refer Your Honour to *Hansard* of Thursday last, October 13, and an answer given by the Minister of Transport who stated, among other things, that this year there are box cars available—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that it is not a question of privilege when there is a discrepancy between statements made either by two members of the government or two other members of the House of Commons. This is a point of debate which the hon. member may wish to raise in other circumstances, but it is not a question of privilege.

Mr. Simpson: Then through you, Mr. Speaker, could I ask the two ministers to get together and give us an answer?

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will use its good offices to achieve this.

FINANCE

INQUIRY AS TO PRESENTATION OF ADDITIONAL BUDGET

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Does he still intend to produce a baby budget this fall? If so, could he inform the house how soon it may appear?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I made the government's intention in this regard clear to the house. I have nothing to add to what I said at that time. The date has not been decided upon.

Mr. Lewis: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. It is not unknown for the government to change its mind. I just wanted to know whether you were still intending to do this.

Mr. Sharp: The government intends to bring before parliament the guaranteed income plan. The reason we will be having a small budget is to meet the needs of this very important program.

Inquiries of the Ministry

HIGHWAY SAFETY

FEDERAL REPRESENTATION AT MEETING OF PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John Addison (York North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport in connection with the meetings taking place in Toronto today and tomorrow of ministers responsible for highway safety across Canada. I should like to ask the minister whether the federal government is represented at this meeting.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): No, sir.

[*Later:*]

Hon. George Hees (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the government hopes to enter the motor transport field soon, does the minister not consider it would have been prudent to have at least an observer in attendance at the meeting of the provincial transport ministers today in Toronto?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that the question is argumentative.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Addison: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct another question to the Minister of Transport. Was the federal government invited to attend the highway safety conference taking place in Toronto at the present time.

Mr. Pickersgill: The answer, sir, is no, the federal government was not invited either to send a representative or even an observer. If we had been invited to send an observer I think we would have done so.

Mr. Addison: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister not think that on such an important affair as this we should have taken the initiative and sent an observer?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question is obviously argumentative.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NATO—POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ROLE OF CANADIAN FORCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of