

Oral Questions

would be subject to influence and I will know who not to name.

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TRADE**POSSIBILITY OF LIMITATION ON CHEESE IMPORTS—
GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. John Wise (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It relates to Canada's import quota on cheese. In light of the indication which the Minister of Agriculture made at the Agriculture Outlook Conference yesterday that he would not allow foreign cheese imports to harm Canadian cheese production, is the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in a position today or will he be in a position in the near future to make an announcement on this very important and pressing matter?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I am not able to give an actual date because, as the hon. member will know, the discussions are quite complex and are still going on, merely interdepartmentally but in terms of the GATT provision and related international questions. I can assure the hon. member it is being given urgent consideration at the present time. An announcement will be made as quickly as possible with regard to the quota for 1976.

Mr. Wise: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether he supports the tightening of a quota on foreign cheese imports which is apparently supported by the Minister of Agriculture?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, my views on the matter will become known at the time the quota is announced.

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[Translation]

TRANSPORT**REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MERCHANT MARINE**

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Statistics report that nine-tenths of the young Quebecers who joined the work force last year are bound to become unemployed; one might as well say that they joined the unemployed force. Taking into account the fact the Minister of Transport has been studying, for a long time now, the possibility of creating a Canadian high seas merchant marine and the fact that said project is finally only sailing on a sea of studies, while Canadian shipowners are forced to fly foreign flags, can the minister tell the House whether that great Canadian dream is about to become reality?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the maritime code bill, which is now before a House committee, makes a first step in the direction of ensuring more use of Canadian vessels. The whole question of a Canadian merchant marine and greater use of Canadian

[Mr. Trudeau.]

ships and Canadian labour on those ships is the subject of an ongoing interdepartmental committee study. It will be some time before the results of that emerge in the form of policy.

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POST OFFICE**RANKIN INLET—REQUEST FOR RECLASSIFICATION OF OFFICE
AND IMPROVED SERVICE**

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General and follows one I asked several days ago about postal service at Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories. It has come to my attention that incoming mail is being distributed by a volunteer but this person cannot send mail out or provide any other services such as money orders, COD's and so on. In light of this information, will the minister send a postmaster to Rankin Inlet to provide adequate service to this community before the Christmas rush is over? Also, will he undertake to reclassify the Rankin Inlet post office so that adequate money will be provided to pay for the space and salaries required?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I am unavailable for the trip, but I will certainly send the unimaginative civil servant who is responsible for the foul-up to there very shortly, preferably between Christmas and New Year's.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—AVAILABILITY OF REGULATIONS
TO BOARD**

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Finance a question with regard to the regulations under the anti-inflation act. He has not given them to the House or the provinces. Has he made a copy available to the Anti-Inflation Board? If so, is this what made it necessary for the chairman to leave the country for awhile?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the regulations were of course discussed during preparation with various officials of the government, including the Anti-Inflation Board.