

of what appears to be the very dubious nature of some of the actions of the Society for the Study of the Heritage of Canada, is the minister giving consideration to an improved method of policing charitable organizations, donations to which are tax exempt?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of National Revenue): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I indicated in the estimates committee that this was a matter of concern to me and that my officials and I have been working on it. There is liaison with officials of the Department of Finance on the subject.

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GRAIN

PROTECTION TO PRODUCERS AGAINST ILLEGAL DEMURRAGE CHARGES

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In light of the fact that there are still ten labour contracts due that can affect the grain industry in the current year, does the government intend to give any special protection to farmers against illegal demurrage charges?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I am not quite sure what the hon. member refers to when he mentions that ten contracts are due. The Wheat Board or other owners of grain who have demurrage claims made against them know fully what their rights are, and I doubt whether they would pay any illegal charges.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the statement made by the minister to the "Adventure in Citizenship" students on Wednesday night that the House of Commons should face the Ottawa River, could the minister inform the House whether he intends to alter the course of the Ottawa River or about face the parliament buildings?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Well, Mr. Speaker, Liberals can move mountains but I think it would be difficult to change the course of the river!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): You are too modest.

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TRANSPORT

AVAILABILITY OF NEW POLICY PROPOSALS TO MEMBERS— POSSIBILITY OF NEW PROPOSALS FOR AIR CANADA AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): A supplementary question for the Minister of Transport, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that data and part of a policy paper being presently discussed by the cabinet has

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appeared in the press, can the minister tell the House if he will be able to make the policy proposals available to the House of Commons?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker, we are going to follow the normal procedure. I am sure the hon. member understands that it has to go through cabinet before we can discuss it in the House.

Mr. Benjamin: I appreciate that it has to go through cabinet, but I thought we could get it from the minister rather than read it in the papers. I appreciate that I cannot expect the minister to divulge any proposals on new policy. Can the minister tell us whether or not the new policy proposals will contain any new directions concerning the operations of Canadian National Railways and Air Canada, particularly as CNR made record net operation profits, but the interest on the debt has eaten up an additional \$30 million-odd over and above operating profits?

● (1150)

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, all I can say at the moment is that there will be many, many changes. Some of the matters that were referred to by the hon. gentleman are to be studied and analysed and recommendations are to be made about them.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. With respect to the Prime Minister's statement to me in the House on Wednesday, that he would welcome my constructive suggestions on the formation of a Canadian position on international development, will the Prime Minister tell me how I can make such constructive suggestions when I am denied the material and views prepared by the CIDA team of experts on the ground that it would be premature to make public at this time the CIDA position papers. And will the Prime Minister take steps to provide members of parliament with the fullest information now being gathered by the government on the options for a comprehensive policy on international development?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am sure that as soon as the department or the agency is ready to make these papers public, it will consider that. I encourage the hon. member in the meantime to do some thinking about the problem. I myself have not seen these papers but it has not prevented me from addressing myself to these questions in many discussions with my colleagues. I hope the hon. member will feel free in his party and caucus to raise such important questions. I think we should have some thinking on this subject on the other side of the House.