

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Nowlan:** I do not have to take any lectures on political or legal morality from the Minister of Justice at all, especially when the Government seems to be more concerned about protecting the reputation of its political friend than the reputation of Air Canada, which will have a stain and a cloud over it as long as this matter remains undefined.

## REASON FOR CALL

**Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants):** Madam Speaker, since the Minister of Justice gave a little longer answer than he usually does, does he consider it part of the normal procedures of justice that a Minister of Transport telephones the Chairman in early December to warn him that he is under criminal investigation, long before the police have had a chance to raid the office and find the documents which are part of the subject of investigation? What kind of double standard is that?

● (1120)

**Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice):** Madam Speaker, I understand, with respect to the small matter that my hon. friend raised about the telephone call, that the call of the Minister of Transport was authorized by the investigating body, the RCMP. He obviously does need a lecture. He obviously does not understand our traditions or he would not get up here, day after day, in a manner in which he knows would be contrary to all our traditions in this country to answer. He should understand that. He should give some consideration to his role as a Member of Parliament.

**Madam Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Ontario.

**Mr. Fennell:** Madam Speaker, further to the remarks made by the Hon. Member for Oshawa, I was going to address a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who, I understand, will be in the House some time later today. Therefore I would like to defer my question until then.

**Madam Speaker:** How many times do I have to say that if Hon. Members do not want to ask their question at a particular time, the only thing they need to do is not rise and I will not recognize them? If they rise, I assume they want to ask a question. It takes a lot of time to say, "I cannot ask a question because the Minister is not here."

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## CROWN CORPORATIONS

CANADA LANDS MIRABEL LIMITED—ORDER IN COUNCIL  
DEALING WITH OFFICIALS' SALARIES

**Hon. Bill Jarvis (Perth):** Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Public Works. Earlier in the week he attempted to answer questions with regard to Canada Lands Mirabel Limited wherein it is suspected that, by virtue

of Order in Council and application to Treasury Board, through job reclassification certain people were able to avoid the six and five restraint on salary raises. On Tuesday last the Minister was asked why an original Order in Council was revoked just two days after the issue was raised in the House of Commons, and replaced by a subsequent Order in Council dealing with the same matter. He failed to answer that on Tuesday. I wonder whether he would take this opportunity to do so.

**Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board):** Madam Speaker, perhaps I can assist the Hon. Member. The Order in Council first issued did not make clear that the Order in Council was being issued pursuant to Section 16 of the Public Service Compensation Restraint Act and was being published because the compensation plan in question conformed to the requirements of the six and five program, and that the directors of the Canada Lands Corporation had stipulated in writing that that compensation plan, conforming as it did to the six and five program, would not be changed during the life of the program. We simply wanted to make that clear to avoid the kind of misunderstanding which my hon. friend is trying to clear up, and I appreciate his question in that regard.

## REQUEST THAT SALARY SCALE BE FILED

**Hon. Bill Jarvis (Perth):** Madam Speaker, it will be a great day for clearing up misunderstandings, because it is a natural suspicion that reclassification is done deliberately to avoid six and five and to favour those in the higher income brackets and not those in the lower-income brackets. In order to avoid that and to clear up any misunderstanding or suspicion, and I direct this to either Minister who is capable of answering, would they file the salaries of those involved in the Crown corporation, Canada Lands Mirabel Limited, before the initiation of the six and five program, and file the salaries that presently exist today? That would clear up any misunderstanding whatsoever.

**Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board):** Madam Speaker, I will be very happy to consult with my hon. friend, the Minister responsible on this. I should point out that the compensation plan in question and the reclassification system were under discussion at the time the six and five law was passed.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Gray:** In order to go into effect, the increase that would have ordinarily been permitted under the Public Service Compensation Restraint Act, as I recall it, was actually somewhat less than 6 per cent, but I would be very happy to consult the responsible Minister so that we can provide further details and provide the reassurance which, quite properly, my hon. friend is seeking.