

MANPOWER

EMPLOYMENT PLANS FOR THOSE LOSING JOBS AT WINNIPEG AIRCRAFT OVERHAUL BASE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): My question, Mr. Speaker, is directed to the Minister of Supply and Services. In view of the sharp staff reductions at the Winnipeg aircraft overhaul base, and in light of the commitments made earlier to the government of Manitoba and to former employees of Air Canada that the base would continue as a viable operation for a number of years, may I ask whether the department has worked out any plans for further employment for the hundreds who are being dismissed?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): It is correct, Mr. Speaker, that the United States Air Force intends to phase out the T-39 program. This will be done during the summer months, and there will still be some planes going in as late as September. During this period my department and other departments will be working to find ways to increase the workload.

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TRANSPORT

AMENDMENT OF NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACT TO PROVIDE MORE REALISTIC RAILWAY PASSENGER POLICY

Mr. B. Keith Penner (Thunder Bay): Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the government received and heard an important submission from the Canadian Railway Labour Association. My question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Have the minister and his department given any consideration to amending the National Transportation Act in such a way as to provide new directives and thereby open the way toward a more relevant and realistic rail passenger policy in Canada?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, and I will consult *Hansard* because that sounded like a pretty good preamble.

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POST OFFICE

ALLEGED CUTBACK IN DELIVERY TO APARTMENTS, OFFICE BUILDINGS AND SHOPPING CENTRES

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): I have a question for the minister responsible for the Post Office. Is it the policy of the Post Office Department, as charged by the president of the Letter Carriers Union, to cut back delivery in high-rise apartments, large office buildings and shopping centres?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Coté (Minister without Portfolio): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Dinsdale: Can the minister give an assurance that there is no threat to job security as charged by the president of the union?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Coté (Longueuil): We have hired over 600 more letter carriers than we had in 1969.

NECESSITY FOR STAMPS IN MAILING INCOME TAX RETURNS

Mr. Cliff Downey (Battle River): My question, too, is directed to the minister in charge of the Post Office. Has there been some change in the postal regulations which makes stamps necessary on completed tax forms going to the tax data centre in Ottawa?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Coté (Minister without Portfolio): Stamps have always been necessary.

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NORTHERN AFFAIRS

FARO, YUKON TERRITORY—PLANS FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): My question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Has the hon. gentleman's department any plans for a sewage treatment plant at Faro in the Yukon Territory, having regard to the involvement of the federal government in the building of the new townsite?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I must take the question as notice. I shall inquire and get in touch with the hon. member directly on this subject.

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[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

PRESENCE OF DEPARTMENTAL OBSERVER AT LAVELL HEARING

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Is an observer from the minister's department watching the progress of the Lavell case which is presently before the courts?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I don't know if there is an observer on the scene but we are following with much interest the legal proceedings that are being carried out in Ontario.

[English]

Mr. Nesbitt: Would the minister undertake to give Mrs. Lavell some sort of relief by legislation or regulation if the courts are not able to do so?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's question is hypothetical.