

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Later:]

Mr. Lundrigan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The supplementary question Your Honour previously did not allow had to do with a withdrawal of assistance which resulted in 90 families of a certain area being without employment.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

TRANSPORT

EXTENSION OF FREEZE UNDER MARITIME FREIGHT RATES ACT

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport, of which I gave him notice. Can he report on the status of the suggestion that the present freeze under the Maritime Freight Rates Act should be extended beyond March 23. I should add that this is to be an interim measure until the transport committee has had a chance to make recommendations.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I hope it will be possible to make an announcement on this matter well in advance of March 23.

NEWFOUNDLAND—IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDER TO REDUCE PASSENGER SERVICE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Would the minister also consider delaying implementation of the Canadian Transport Commission proposal to curtail passenger service in Newfoundland on April 15 until the transport committee has had a chance to report to this house and make recommendations?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I do not think I have power to do that, unless appeal procedures are followed. So far as I am aware, there has been no appeal. There may be one to the Governor in Council, but I have not seen any. In the event that an appeal is forthcoming, the Governor in Council will look at it quickly.

Mr. McGrath: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The minister must be aware that the Newfoundland legislature passed an unanimous resolution on the matter. Surely that can be considered an appeal.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

SUGGESTED REPLACEMENT OF POSTMASTER GENERAL

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I had intended ask-

ing a question supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. I have changed my mind and will now direct it to the Prime Minister. Now that the Postmaster General has denied he has been using Gestapo methods—

Some hon. Members: Shame, shame.

Mr. MacInnis: A bunch of idiots.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I ask the hon. member to put his question.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, surely a member of the opposition ought to be allowed to quote the minister who made the original statement.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. MacInnis: Since the Postmaster General has denied using Gestapo methods and since a member of his own party last evening called him to task, will the Prime Minister consider replacing him as soon as possible?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt very much whether that question is in order.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, that was a fair question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: May we have order, please.

Mr. MacInnis: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a matter of order and ethics, since a member of his own party called the Postmaster General to task, the Prime Minister ought to consider the matter serious enough to warrant looking into, with a view possibly to replacing the Postmaster General.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is making a representation which he must assume will be taken into consideration.

STUDENT UNREST

ROYAL COMMISSION TO STUDY DISSENSION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): I have a question for the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, and it is not a provocative one. It is one in which I am sure he has a personal and a long time professional interest, namely the difficulties and dissension taking place in various universities across Canada. It is so widespread it cannot be met by provincial action. Would the Prime