

Oral Questions

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—PRESENT POSITION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Are the two parties to the dispute, the machinists and Air Canada, any closer to settlement in this dispute which today is affecting nine cities in Canada?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, they do not seem to be too much closer. The situation at the present time is that the union has indicated that unless the company adopts a more flexible attitude they are not prepared to meet for further bargaining. I am now indicating to both parties through the House that we are prepared to offer mediation services again in the hope the parties will come together right away and try to resolve the dispute.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre on a supplementary and then call orders of the day.

DISPUTE WITH MACHINISTS—APPLICATION OF TERMS OF RESOLUTION ON BILINGUALISM ADOPTED BY HOUSE

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the references made in the House during the recent debate on bilingualism in the public service to the effect that the points in that resolution would also apply to Air Canada and other Crown corporations, can the minister say whether that resolution and its terms have been drawn to the attention of Air Canada?

● (1500)

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada is surely aware of the resolution that was passed by the House and I hope the union, too, will be aware of it. Probably we shall have to send it to the union because there are some demands which are related to that very resolution.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member on his further supplementary, but I think it should be brought to the attention of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre that other members did not have an opportunity to ask their questions within the time limit.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): May I ask the Minister of Transport if he will urge both parties to pay attention to the terms of that resolution?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I am told that the Prime Minister is supposed to get in touch with both parties and I think that would be sufficient to express the opinion of the government.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. The hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte rises on a question of privilege.

[Mr. Sharp.]

Mr. McCain: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your permission to acknowledge the contribution to the sporting world which has been made by Ron Turcotte of Grand Falls, New Brunswick and Mr. Lucien Laurin of Quebec.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McCain: I am sure the multitude of Canadians who cheered the exceptional accomplishment of the winning of the triple crown by Secretariat and the rest of the team would wish that it be properly noted in the records of this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Barnett: Perhaps I might rise on a point of order at this stage for the attention, in particular, of the government House leader. Would he consider calling as the first order of business either today or tomorrow order No. 7 in relation to Bill C-4, the first government bill on the order paper—it has been there since January 12,—with a view to having it dealt with quickly at second reading stage and referred to the standing committee for consideration and report?

Mr. Speaker: That is hardly a point of order. I have brought it to the attention of hon. members on previous occasions that when we have gone five or ten minutes beyond the question period, it makes for difficulty if hon. members arise on so-called points of order to ask whether a particular piece of legislation is to be considered, and a further five minutes of questioning follows. I think these questions ought to be asked during the question period. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate rises on a supplementary point of order.

Mr. Lundrigan: I should like to say, in a conciliatory manner, that discussions have taken place in connection with this bill, and we on this side would be quite satisfied to have it referred to the committee after only a minimum of time in the House—practically none.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I find the offer of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate more appealing than the offer of the hon. member in the far corner. I will call this item on the understanding that it will be passed within a very short time and sent to committee. If we can work this out today, I will be happy to call the bill first thing tomorrow and get it into committee quickly.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

PROVISIONS RESPECTING NEIGHBOURHOOD
IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION, OWNERSHIP, NEW
COMMUNITIES, ETC.

The House proceeded to consideration of Bill C-133 to amend the National Housing Act as reported (with amend-