

*Oral Questions*

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

**ALLEGED UNWARRANTED ATTACK BY GOVERNMENT ON INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES SUPREME COURT**

**Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Justice and the Prime Minister my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. I should like to ask him why the government has considered it necessary to launch, as Mr. Justice Morrow claims, an unwarranted attack by the executive of the Canadian government upon the integrity and independence of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think the Prime Minister made it quite clear yesterday that the government of Canada was not launching an unwarranted attack on the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary. All the Prime Minister said yesterday was that he was going to discuss the matter with the Minister of Justice. If the government feels that there was not such an unwarranted attack on the Supreme Court in the Northwest Territories, why then did the government release the information to the media that writ of prohibition proceedings were going to be taken the day before the judgment of Mr. Justice Morrow was released?

**Mr. Drury:** I will have to discuss that with the Minister of Justice.

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**AGRICULTURE**

**MEASURES TO GUARANTEE PRICES TO FARMERS THAT WILL ENCOURAGE FOOD PRODUCTION**

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of statements made by the Minister of Finance both yesterday and today that increased food production is essential to control inflation in Canada, may I ask the minister if he or the government has in hand or under study methods to guarantee prices and forward pricing that will encourage farmers to make long-range plans to increase food production?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, not only have I discussed how to increase agricultural production in Canada with the Minister of Finance but I have discussed it with the whole government. I think some of the things we have done have proven that the farmers are trying to respond. We will also do everything we can to see that the farmers get a proper economic return for their input if they are to be asked to control this terrible thing we all call inflation.

● (1200)

**Mr. Gleave:** Mr. Speaker, I did not really get the clear answer I was seeking. May I ask the minister whether we can at least have assurances that the government is abandoning or has abandoned its policy of restricting produc-

[Mr. Jamieson.]

tion which it followed in the last two or three years and is now at least adopting a policy of all-out production?

**Mr. Whelan:** Any program of production in this country will be one that is needed here and one that we need for our exports. I am sure that our producers can meet the challenge that is offered to them.

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**AIRPORTS**

**SUGGESTED DEFERMENT OR ELIMINATION OF INCREASE IN LANDING FEES FOR LIGHT AIRCRAFT—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. I would refer the minister to the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications with regard to the deferment or elimination of any proposed increase in the landing charges for light aircraft at any airport coming under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transport. Would the minister advise what action has been taken and what his intention is with regard to this proposed increase?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I think we accepted before the committee that we would delay this increase to October 1 instead of, I believe, July 1, if my memory serves me well. In the meantime, we are ready to receive all representations, and actually many people have come to see me about this.

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**URBAN AFFAIRS**

**RELOCATION OF RAILWAY TRACKS IN DOWNTOWN AREAS—POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION—REPLY TO MAYOR OF MONCTON**

**Mr. Charles H. Thomas (Moncton):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Last October the minister, in conjunction with his colleague, the then minister of transport, issued a statement that the government would be seeking amendments to the Railway Act to provide funds for the relocation of railway tracks in downtown areas. I would ask the minister whether it is still on the agenda and when the legislation will be introduced in the House?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, it is very much on the agenda, but we encountered some difficulty in drafting the legislation and that slowed us down. I hope it is produced as soon as possible.

**Mr. Thomas (Moncton):** Would the minister advise what reply, other than an acknowledgement, he has made to the official request from the mayor of the city of Moncton about two weeks ago for information on this legislation?

**Mr. Basford:** We have had so many requests from so many cities that I would like to look up the specific