

Oral Questions

INDUSTRY

PRATT AND WHITNEY—PROPOSED GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER
OF COMPANY IN VIEW OF FAILURE TO SETTLE STRIKE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago I asked the Prime Minister whether the government would take action in the very long and difficult Pratt and Whitney strike, a company in which the government of Canada invested some \$60 million. In view of the refusal by the company to accept the recommendations made by the arbitrator appointed by the provincial government and the announcement today that that company now says it did not make a commitment to Premier Bourassa that it will re-hire 1,000 people on strike immediately, will the government consider taking over that company as it has taken over or proposes to take over two other very large aero-space companies as a government corporation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): That is not being considered, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the Prime Minister.

Mr. Trudeau: I said it was not being considered, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Orlikow: Two weeks ago the Prime Minister would not answer my question because it was hypothetical. The company has now indicated very clearly that it still refuses to follow the Canadian law and customs. Will the government now give consideration to taking over that company so that Canadian workers can work and work in peace?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, that is a repetition of the question in a non-hypothetical way. We are not considering taking it over.

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[Translation]

FISHERIES

POSSIBLE APPLICATION OF NEW MEAT INSPECTION
REGULATIONS IN QUEBEC TO FISH

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Fisheries.

Following the controversy in Quebec about the "Quebec Approved" seal and the provincial government's intentions of revamping the meat inspection system, will amendments to regulations also apply to fish inspection in Gaspé and Îles-de-la-Madeleine?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of State (Fisheries)): Mr. Speaker, the province of Quebec passed complementary legislation to federal laws on fish inspection. Since 1959, if I remember well, federal inspectors have been checking all fish for consumption within and without Quebec. Shying away from entering the present debate on another kind of food, I would strongly advise hon. members to use mackerel when baking pizzas in the future.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

[English]

AIR TRANSPORT

FAILURE OF UNITED STATES TO APPROVE PACIFIC WESTERN
AIRLINES ROUTE FROM VANCOUVER TO SEATTLE—
GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. As President Ford has not signed the necessary documents to allow Pacific Western Airlines to fly a direct route from Vancouver to Seattle, has the minister protested this delay by the president of the United States? If not, when will he protest?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I did not understand the route; between Vancouver and—

Mr. Reynolds: Seattle.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I know it is in the agreement, but I do not know if the airline has decided to fly it. However, I will inquire and advise the hon. member.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the airline has tried to fly and has had to announce a cancellation of the schedule because the United States president has not signed the necessary documents, if this is not done within a three or four day period from now, will the minister take unilateral action against United States airlines already flying the routes given to them to come into Canada?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, if I get from the company the same information which the hon. member has—

Mr. Reynolds: It has been in every newspaper.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): That may be, but I have not read those newspapers. If the hon. member will send them to me, I will obtain an answer.

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AIR CANADA

INQUIRY WHETHER MR. PRATTE WILL APPEAR BEFORE ESTEY
COMMISSION

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. As Judge Estey is nearing the end of his hearing and in order to clear up all situations relating to Air Canada that have arisen, does the minister know if and when Mr. Pratte will appear before Judge Estey?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, it is up to the judge and Mr. Pratte to decide, not to me. I do not know why the hon. member is asking me.