

dangers of world overpopulation, could the Prime Minister—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: It isn't his fault.

Mrs. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I am getting so much help—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: Could the Prime Minister explain why—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: I will carry on—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: Could the Prime Minister explain why Canada is holding back her vital contribution—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, this question is somewhat serious.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: I will try once again if the competition will please pipe down. Could the Prime Minister explain why Canada is holding back her vital contribution to the 1970 birth control program of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mrs. MacInnis: May I ask a supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I was going to express some doubts whether the question might not be put in writing on the Order Paper, but the hon. member may have a supplementary.

Mrs. MacInnis: May I ask if the Prime Minister or one of his colleagues, would consider making a statement on this matter because it is of vital concern to the United Nations and our role in the United Nations? Could we have a ministerial statement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to maintain the suggestion I made a moment ago. If there is urgency which is not apparent to the Chair the matter might be considered at the time of adjournment.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

ATLANTIC REGION—CUTBACK IN MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question on safety also but it is of a different nature.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacEwan: I should like to ask the Minister of Transport if he has had an opportunity to look into the communications from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the United Transport Union regarding the matter of safety in connection with the lay-off of CNR maintenance of way employees.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I asked for a report from the Canadian Transport Commission subsequent to the last question asked on this subject. I have not received it yet but I shall make inquiries and get it as soon as I can.

URBAN AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR WHITE PAPER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the government will shortly receive a study on urban problems in Canada with recommendations for development of new national policies respecting the cities, will the government consider drafting its conclusions in a white paper? Also, will the government consider setting up a standing committee on urban affairs to deal with the matter in view of the complexity of the situation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I shall await the advice of the minister concerned with housing to see if, in fact, such a report is forthcoming in the near future.

Mr. Alexander: A supplementary question Mr. Speaker. Is the government considering the implementation of a national urban affairs council representative of the federal, provincial and municipal governments which would reorganize and co-ordinate, among other things, the government's role in its contribution to urban affairs?

Mr. Trudeau: This is not being considered at the governmental level at this time, Mr. Speaker.

POST OFFICE

PRESENT POSITION OF MONTREAL POSTAL DISPUTE—ACTION OF SORTERS

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): I have a question for the Acting Postmaster General, Mr. Speaker. Could the min-