

*Oral Questions*

six banks which participated in the bail-out, and the CCB's president had been called to Ottawa for meetings. Can the Minister assure the House unequivocally that none of this activity and knowledge resulted in certain depositors in the financial institution being able to move their money while the hospitals of which the Minister spoke were left unprotected?

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I think we have indicated by the action we have taken with the uninsured depositors that we have not left them unprotected.

*[Translation]*

## WITHDRAWAL OF DEPOSITS FROM CANADIAN COMMERCIAL BANK

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Finance). In March, the chartered banks co-operated with the federal Government in order to save the Canadian Commercial Bank. Yesterday we were told that a number of banks had removed their deposits from the Canadian Commercial Banks.

My question is as follows: Could the Minister inform the House today whether the same banks were involved in both cases?

*[English]*

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I think that the chartered banks, like other business organizations, make decisions, commercial decisions, every day. The depositors that we have moved to save include some small towns in Alberta and some small towns in British Columbia.

## MINISTER'S KNOWLEDGE

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I say to the Minister that all kinds of small groups of Canadians, whether in hospital funds, pensioners, or municipalities, were not asked to participate in the original bail-out. The banks were, and that is why this question has to be answered.

I would like to ask her again, if, as has been suggested, the banks that participated in the bail-out shortly thereafter withdrew funds from the bailed out bank, surely they helped scuttle a project they were supposed to save. Can the Minister tell us if she found out, or if she had her officials find out at the time whether the banks involved in the original bail-out shortly thereafter took funds out of the bank they were supposed to help save?

**Mr. Benjamin:** Insider information.

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, the banks took part in a support package in March in order to help us reach a decision on the basis of the banking system. Whatever actions they took thereafter, they would take in their commercial interests.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An Hon. Member:** The revolving door again.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

## REQUEST THAT MINISTER MAKE INQUIRIES

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** I want to say to the Minister that she has an obligation to be speaking for the people of Canada here, not for the banks of Canada.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** She should understand that.

Considering that the people of Canada put up millions of dollars in March and are now being asked to put up perhaps in excess of \$1 billion, will she find out for the House, use her ministerial office and exercise her responsibility, whether the banks that participated in the original bail-out with the people of Canada subsequently helped scuttle the project by taking money out themselves? Will she exercise her responsibility for once?

**An Hon. Member:** Resign.

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I find it very interesting that the Leader of the New Democratic Party has totally lost interest in what we have tried to do in the last week, namely, to look after the small depositors in this bank, which include small businesses and others—

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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*[Translation]*

## AIR CANADA

## PASSENGER SAFETY

**Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the strike by some 3,000 Air Canada flight attendants which is entering its fourth week, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport whether he can advise the travelling public that it is perfectly safe to fly Air Canada. More specifically, does the Minister believe that the training being given to those who are replacing the flight attendants is adequate?

Furthermore, could the Minister give the House the assurance that the Pratt & Whitney engines used on Air Canada's 727 and DC-9 aircraft have been checked and that these engines are in perfect condition?

*[English]*

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):** First, Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member and other Members will be pleased to know that the negotiations have resumed between CALFAA and the airline. We hope those will be productive.