

Oral Questions

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, hyperlipemia is a serious disease but there is no consensus within the medical profession on the usefulness or cost effectiveness of a nation-wide screening program for children. As I said in my speech in Vancouver, we are planning to test the best possible strategies and approaches on a limited scale and will adopt nationally only those which appear to be most promising. I can assure the hon. member that we shall look at the specific disease he mentioned, to see if it would be appropriate to institute a test project or pilot program.

Mr. Rynard: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since blood cholesterol rises steadily from age one to age seven, why was it not considered appropriate to study children in those age groups in our schools?

● (1450)

Mr. Lalonde: I am advised, Mr. Speaker, that there is some recent evidence from animal experiments, in particular from Dr. Hahn's in Vancouver, that if newborn animals are fed low cholesterol diets they will develop excess cholesterol in later life. This particular aspect must be looked into further.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ROSEAU RIVER PROJECT—IDENTIFICATION OF MITIGATING WORKS**

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It concerns the discussions with his United States counterpart on the effect of the Roseau River project and specifically its effect on southeastern Manitoba. Have the mitigating works all been identified? Who will pay for the mitigating works and more important, will they prevent any adverse effects that have been identified?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the hon. member for not having that information at hand. I will take note of the question and provide the information either in the House or in writing within a couple of days.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED ILLEGALITIES CONNECTED WITH SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS—REQUEST FOR REPORT**

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Has he received any report from the RCMP about the obviously crooked nuclear fee dealings of AECL and if he has not yet received a report, has he been kept up-to-date on the progress of the investigation in Canada, Switzerland, Italy and Argentina?

[Mr. Rynard.]

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): The answer to the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker, is yes, the investigation is an ongoing one and is progressing.

Mr. Lawrence: A supplementary question. Can the minister inform the House if he has been keeping the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources informed of the progress of this investigation?

Mr. Fox: Mr. Speaker, it is a police investigation that is in progress. Once it has come to an end, I will of course get in touch with my colleague.

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TRANSPORT**REPLACEMENT FOR "WILLIAM CARSON"—POSSIBILITY AIR CANADA WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICE TO NEWFOUNDLAND**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. I welcome his announcement made yesterday that there will be a judicial inquiry into the sinking of the *William Carson*. My question stems from that in a way because I want to know if a decision has been made on a replacement for the *William Carson* or if there has been a rationalization of existing modes to help clear up the backlog created as a result of the sinking of this ship and aggravated by the fact that Air Canada has reduced the number of seats available to Newfoundland this year?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, work has been going on to make sure that the demand for seats and passage for freight is provided by such movement of vessels from one route to another and additional vessels where required. This will continue. I do not know when I will be in a position to announce the final solution. Because of the nature of things we will be assessing the demand and attempting at all times to ensure that vessels are available.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I by way of a supplementary and in the form of a representation ask the minister, who answers for Air Canada, if he would discuss with the President of Air Canada the possibility of providing additional seats to the province this year in light of the summer games in Newfoundland in August and especially because of the demand created by the sinking of the *William Carson*?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I would imagine that Air Canada has the potential of travel to Newfoundland for the games very much in mind but I will take up the matter with the President of Air Canada in order to be sure that he has taken this into consideration.