

[English]

### AIRPORTS

#### DORVAL—DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION OF RUNWAY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Raymond Rock (Jacques-Cartier-Lasalle):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of a statement made last night by the minister to the effect that the department has delayed the building of a runway at Dorval airport, I should like to ask whether there are to be similar delays in respect of other Canadian airports.

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, there are some other airports in the same predicament. I should like to say, however, that it is a matter of regret that we are not in a position to proceed with the new runway at Dorval at this time. I hope it will not be long before we are in a position to do so in order to ameliorate the noise.

**Mr. Rock:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is a new runway to be built for the Toronto airport?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This question should be placed on the order paper.

### IMMIGRATION

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—NON-PARTICIPATION IN REFUGEE SETTLEMENT PLAN

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. My question is that which I posed to the acting minister on November 3. Perhaps I might read the question again:

I should like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I ask the minister whether a statement can be made as soon as possible as to why the province of British Columbia is not participating with the department to bring handicapped refugees and their families to Canada this year, as is the situation with eight other provinces.

I wonder whether the minister is now in a position to reply.

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I regret that this question was not drawn to my attention. I hope I will be in a position to answer it tomorrow or the day after.

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

#### REQUEST FOR REPORT ON DISCUSSIONS WITH RAILWAY MANAGEMENT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Has the minister met with the president of the C.N.R. regarding lay-offs of railway employees in the Atlantic region? May I also ask what efforts are being made by the minister to rescind these lay-offs?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, this question has been raised before. I have met with the president of the C.N.R. and have discussed with him the root cause of the lay-offs. In addition to the seasonal lay-offs which normally occur during this time of year they are attributable to the reduction in the bulk loadings of freight cars in all parts of Canada, including the maritimes. I hope the level of activity in respect of car loadings will increase substantially in the months ahead and that this will make it possible to rehire as quickly as possible many of the men who are presently without work.

**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. May I ask the minister what this government intends to do with regard to the many men across Canada who are being laid off and find themselves in dire circumstances due to the fact that they do not have any employment because of the neglect on the part of this government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Hellyer:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration has been involved with this problem from the beginning, and all government departments are interested in seeing what they can do to ameliorate the lay-offs.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister on the same matter. Has the Prime Minister received the representations from the Canadian federation of mayors urging that the Atlantic provinces and northern Ontario be exempt from the federal government's economic restraint policy and, if so, has he had an opportunity to consider it?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I do not recall seeing that telegram but I will look into it right away.