

## Oral Questions

## FLOODS

## ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE WITH PROPERTY ON NORTH SHORE OF LAKE ERIE DAMAGED BY HIGH WATER LEVEL

**Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the high level of water in the Great Lakes, particularly Lake Erie, which has resulted in considerable damage to farm land, cottages and marinas, would the Minister of Public Works have his engineers advise the people in the area of Long Point on the north shore of Lake Erie how they may get temporary relief in the form of either advice or financial assistance?

• (1140)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This is a representation and the hon. member will have to assume that the minister has noted it.

**Mr. Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand):** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members will appreciate the fact that we are running short of time.

**Mr. Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand):** I pass, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is much better.

\* \* \*

## POST OFFICE

## INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS ACT IN LIGHT OF DIFFICULTY IN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EMPLOYEES

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the problems related to the recently concluded postal negotiations arising out of what appears to be deficiencies in the Public Service Staff Relations Act, does the minister propose to introduce amendments to that legislation and, specifically, what are these amendments which will cope with the problem?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I think it was stated in the throne speech that amendments to that act would be introduced at a later stage.

**Mr. McGrath:** In view of the continuing problems in this department with regard to the recently concluded agreement and the indication that a very small majority of the postal workers accepted the conciliation report, may I ask the minister when the government proposes to introduce amendments to this legislation since this matter does have a great deal of urgency?

**Mr. Drury:** I will consult with the House leader about the timing.

## CONSIDERATION OF PAY SCALE FOR CODE OPERATORS IN FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNIONS

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** I have a supplementary question for the President of the Treasury

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

Board, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the arbitrary low pay scale laid down by the Treasury Board for the new job classification of code operator has been a major concern in the long drawn-out contract negotiations, will this item be given priority consideration in the renewed negotiations?

**Mr. Speaker:** While this question is being pondered the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock.

\* \* \*

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

## INCREASE IN PRICES OF GASOLINE AND AUTOMOBILES—INVESTIGATION OF JUSTIFICATION

**Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. It is really subsequent to several questions on this subject in recent days. It has to do with the double burden recently put on the millions of Canadian motorists by the increase in the price of certain major automobile company products and the recent increase in the price of gasoline. Are the minister and his department satisfied that these increases, which are a burden to millions of Canadians, are justified or is his office still investigating to find out whether action can be taken to protect this body of Canadian consumers?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring to possible action under the Combines Investigation Act, I am advised that the practice followed by successive governments is not to allude to the possible existence of an inquiry under the act unless such an inquiry has been terminated, unless the matter goes to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission or unless there is some court proceeding.

\* \* \*

## AIRPORTS

## MOUNT HOPE, ONT.—RECONSIDERATION OF EXPANSION PLANS

**Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the representations he has received and those received by his predecessor, is he giving reconsideration to the existing plans for expansion at Mount Hope airport?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, as the House was informed yesterday, we have just received the report following the hearings on expropriations. We had promised that when we would receive this report a commission would be formed, which would enable those who want to make representations to do so.

We shall therefore give this new opportunity to the people of the area who want to make representations