

### Oral Questions

before, would the Prime Minister now answer the question and indicate whether any immediate action will be considered?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is repeating a representation of which the government is already very well aware.

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● (1450)

### AGRICULTURE

#### HAY—REQUEST FOR IMPOSITION OF EXPORT CONTROL

**Mr. Harry Kuntz (Battle River):** Mr. Speaker, through you I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact that his department has assured the agricultural industry of an adequate supply of alfalfa pellets by requiring export permits, is it the government's intention to impose the same requirements on the export of hay?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, if I understand the hon. member's question properly, he is asking if we are considering using the same type of system for the export of hay out of Canada as for alfalfa pellets. This request had been sent to us by the President of Unifarm from Alberta and we are looking at it. At this time I am not prepared to take any action on this request because hay is moving from Washington into British Columbia freely.

**Mr. Kuntz:** A supplementary question. In view of the concern expressed by the dairy farmers of British Columbia about a severe shortage of hay for this winter that could be aggravated by restrictions on exports by the United States government, could the minister assure the House that there will be an adequate supply and what steps will be taken in this regard?

**Mr. Whelan:** The only thing that has been brought to my attention, Mr. Speaker, is that we have stopped some illegal imports of wheat straw that carried a fungus disease, and which is banned, but no real restrictions are being placed on products coming into British Columbia. If the hon. member has evidence of this, I should be glad to hear it and see it.

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### AIR CANADA

#### DISPUTE WITH CANADIAN AIRLINE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION—ALLEGED USE OF NON-UNION PERSONNEL DURING STRIKE—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON INVESTIGATION

**Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour and concerns the strike of the finance section of Air Canada in Winnipeg which is now in its eighth week. Since the minister has been aware for sometime of the allegation that Air Canada is using undue pressure to have non-union personnel replace the striking workers in the finance section, has he investigated and is

[Mr. Paproski.]

his investigation now complete and what is the report? If the investigation is not complete, when may we expect to receive that report?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I hope to be in a position to indicate to the hon. member the results of our study of those complaints very shortly. I would indicate to him, too, that we might be able to be helpful in these parties reaching settlement. I am fairly optimistic that perhaps we can achieve that laudable result this week.

#### ALLEGED USE OF NON-UNION PERSONNEL DURING STRIKE—RESULT FOR LEAVE TO PROSECUTE—RESUMPTION OF MEDIATION

**Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk):** With respect to the minister's last remark, that he hopes to achieve settlement this week, can he indicate to the House whether mediation talks have resumed? If they have not when does he expect that they will and further, if they do not resume, will he give consideration to the union's request to prosecute under the unfair labour practices legislation?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to leave without comment for the moment the answer to the latter part of the hon. member's question. As to the first part, I should like to say that I believe the most recent proposals are being tested in respect of their acceptability or otherwise by the membership. As soon as we have some clear reading on that,—I have not had a chance to get a clear reading yet—the time would be appropriate to decide if further action is required by means of direct intervention through mediation.

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### CONSUMER AFFAIRS

#### MONITORING OF PASSING ON OF REDUCTIONS IN SALES AND EXCISE TAXES—REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and relates to the commitment he made back in mid February with regard to giving a report to the House on the matter of monitoring the passing on of reductions in sales and excise taxes included in the budget some five months ago. Can the minister tell the House whether such a report—even an interim report—will be made before the recess for the summer, as and when that takes place, or is the minister hoping that the House will recess and everybody will forget his failure to carry out a commitment?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend is mistaken. I have carefully checked the *Hansard* record and as far as I can see, what I said was that I would be pleased to present information to the House on this monitoring process once the work has been completed. As yet, the work is not completed and I do not think it will be possible to present a report before the House adjourns for the summer.