

Oral Questions

member will agree that this will probably result in greater progress than would otherwise be possible.

* * *

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DATE OF OPENING TO PUBLIC OF REGISTRY SHOWING FINANCIAL HOLDINGS OF CABINET MINISTERS—REASON FOR DELAY

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In view of his undertaking to this House on December 18 last that he would soon have open for public inspection the material in a registry being set up to indicate the financial holdings of cabinet ministers of this government, why is that material not open for public inspection today?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the question is very timely. The hon. member is certainly justified in expressing concern because, for internal purposes, I had given the ministers only until early in the new year to comply with the guidelines. The registry was not ready for operation at the time the work was done by an official in the Privy Council office. However, over the summer arrangements were made, proper staff was found and offices have been allocated. I have been discussing the matter with the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who will be responsible, not for the application of the guidelines, but for the physical presence of those who will be operating the registry. He told me that November 15 will be the date on which this register will be opened to the public. I assure the hon. member that, internally, compliance with the guidelines was urged on ministers as early as January or March, I believe.

Mr. Lawrence: In view of the fact in other jurisdictions in this country where this registry system has been set up they were able to operate this system within two weeks of the announcement by the leader of whatever government it was, can the Prime Minister indicate why there has been this delay of seven or eight months from the time the undertaking was given in the House.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, there was an election which intervened in the spring. The cabinet was busy—

Mr. Stanfield: Wrestling.

Mr. Trudeau: The Leader of the Opposition says wrestling.

An hon. Member: You still have muscle?

Mr. Trudeau: We still have some muscle left. I should inform the hon. member and the House that the new ministers may not all be able to comply by November 15.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: That deadline obviously applies to ministers who have been in previous cabinets. I have given a little more time to the new ministers to arrange their affairs in compliance with these guidelines.

[Mr. Sharp.]

INDUSTRY

UNITED AIRCRAFT COMPANY—SUGGESTED TAKE-OVER BY GOVERNMENT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In view of the fact the federal government has given grants of over \$60 million to the United Aircraft Company and at the same time is proposing to take over de Havilland Aircraft and Canadair, is the government considering taking over the United Aircraft Company which has been on strike in Longueuil for over nine months and is sending a substantial part of work previously done in Canada to its parent company in the United States?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, at this stage, all I can say is that I will give the hon. member's question consideration. However, I want to tell him the government has discussed and is concerned with situations, not only that of United Aircraft, but other like situations where control of companies is exercised abroad, sometimes not to the benefit of Canadian workers and the Canadian people.

* * *

MANPOWER

ALLEGATION MONTREAL OFFICE DIRECTING PEOPLE TO UNITED AIRCRAFT TO ACT AS STRIKE BREAKERS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Why are Manpower offices in the Montreal area directing people who are looking for work to the United Aircraft plant in Longueuil? If these people accept this advice which is being given by the department, they will, in fact, be acting as strike breakers.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hon. member's information. I doubt whether it is totally the case. If it is, I will certainly step into the situation because it is not the policy of the government to act as a strike breaker.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

EGGS—TIME WHEN DEPARTMENT LEARNED OF DETERIORATING SITUATION—ACTION TO CORRECT

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. It is further to one raised yesterday by the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot. The minister indicated he knew about the destruction of \$900,000 worth of eggs shortly before that destruction. Were the minister and his officials aware last spring and early summer that the stockpiling of eggs had reached the point where they had overflowed the storage facilities and had to be stored, among other places, in apple storage facilities? If so, what action was taken by the department to reduce the stockpiling before the eggs became rotten?