

S. O. 21

one o'clock, and I will recognize the Hon. Minister after Question Period?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

At 12.59 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[English]

AIRPORTS

PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT—PRICES CHARGED BY SNACK-BARS

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, in the Pearson International Airport at Toronto, the smallest glass of pop, coca cola, for example, costs \$1.29. I was at the airport yesterday and had to spend a fair amount of time waiting for some travellers. I was appalled at the prices they charged at the concession snack-bars in the airport. I call upon the Government to look into this problem.

These are basically monopoly operations which are under the control of the Government. The Government wants to brag about running airports as profit centres and, to a certain point, it is entitled to do so, but it also has a responsibility not only to the public as taxpayers but to the public as travellers. It is appalling to discover how much is being charged for these basic simple services. It should be part of the Government's responsibility to ensure that prices being charged are reasonable in relation to the service and products provided.

I call upon the Minister of Transport (Mr. Bouchard) to look into the situation and to report on what is being done by the Government to keep prices in line for the travelling public at our airports.

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FISHERIES

ATLANTIC INSHORE FISHERMEN—LOBSTER LICENCE STATUS

Mr. Lawrence I. O'Neil (Cape Breton Highlands—Canso): Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge that the desire of inshore fishermen to have their concerns about upgrading their lobster licences to A from B be addressed. Many of these fishermen received a commitment years ago that they would be allowed to regain their licensed status if their personal circumstances changed. Still others had their licences cancelled based on incorrect

information or procedures employed at the time. Fishermen who are seeking reinstatement of their lobster licences should be given a full hearing.

To date, fishermen are being told by the Atlantic Licence Appeal Board that the board cannot upgrade or reinstate, it can only decide whether the policy in effect at the time of down grading or cancellation was applied correctly. That is not enough. This issue must be addressed in a complete way with a view to restoring equity by having the circumstances of each appellant fully considered and responded to.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

CLOSURE OF WESTERN SHORE, N.S., POST OFFICE

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, on Sunday in Western Shore, Nova Scotia, the local post office will be closed. It will be closed for the last time. All 720 residents of this small town signed a petition asking that their post office be maintained but no one has listened. These people say that the Member of Parliament for the area simply passed on the message to Canada Post without any recommendations. He is obviously following the lead of the Minister responsible for the Post Office who washes his hands of responsibility when it comes time to stand up for rural post offices.

This problem came about when the local postmistress decided to retire. Are Canadians living in rural areas to be frightened every time one of their postmistresses or postmasters decides to retire that this will be the time their post office will close down?

We must hear these people. Their voices must be heard loud and clear. They describe their post office as a meeting place and they believe the old people will really be the ones to suffer. The people used the post office for money orders and things like that, and every kid who came into the post office received a sucker. That is all gone now. These people deserve to be heard. Rural Canada needs a voice in this Parliament.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

CENTENNIAL OF AGASSIZ, B.C., POST OFFICE

Mr. Ross Belsher (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to rise in the House today to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the post office in Agassiz, British Columbia. Actual postal service to the community was started in 1884, but it was not until four years later that the name of Agassiz was adopted, named after the first postmaster, Mr. L. A. Agassiz. Since that time 14 postmasters have efficiently run the post office, and today Debbie Cliff proudly holds the title