

**Mr. Lalonde:** As to the differences to which the hon. member referred, indeed they are real. But one must also realize, as I am sure the hon. member knows, that there are other factors in the United States that make that cost—the net cost to the producer—less than it appears at first sight.

I am discussing with the producing provinces, particularly the government of Alberta, the elements of a new pricing arrangement which I hope will be satisfactory to all concerned. As the hon. member knows, if the producer gets only \$7 back at the present time, the price nonetheless to the consumer is \$15—\$14.75 to be exact—and most of the difference between \$7 and \$14 goes to the governments of the producing provinces, particularly the government of Alberta.

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## RAILWAYS

### RETENTION OF BRANCH LINES FOR ELEVATOR COMPANIES

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Since the previous Conservative government ignored many of the branch lines which are important to the west, could the minister consider placing into the basic network those branch lines in the west which grain elevator companies have said they wish to service?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, the way I see it, the willingness of a company to serve a branch line would be one of the factors—obviously, a very important one, otherwise we would not have a branch line—in the decision to rehabilitate one.

● (1500)

Offhand, I can think of a number of other factors. There would be the cost of rehabilitation, the cost of maintaining it after rehabilitation, the level of the subsidy, and there would be the total volume on the branch line, the availability of alternative routes. There would be a number of other factors to be borne in mind, and presumably that was done by Hall and PRAC when they identified some of these branch lines for rehabilitation.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

### PETITION

#### REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION IN SERVICE OF "SAMSON V" STERN WHEELER

**Madam Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the Deputy Clerk of the House has laid on the Table the seventh report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petition presented by the hon. member for New

### Time Allocation for Bill C-30

Westminster-Coquitlam (Miss Jewett) and finds that it meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES COMMISSIONER

### APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE TO STUDY REPORT

**Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council):** Madam Speaker, there have been consultations and I think there is unanimous consent so that the following motion can be proposed and passed. The motion deals with the membership of the joint committee set up to study the report of the Commissioner of Official Languages. The motion is as follows, Madam Speaker, and with the consent of the House, I would like to move, seconded by the Minister of State (Finance) (Mr. Bussières):

That the following members do represent this House at the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and of the House of Commons appointed to consider the reports of the Commissioner for Official Languages: Messrs. Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe), Corbin, Gauthier, Herbert, Joyal, Kilgour, La Salle, Nystrom and Stollery; and

That a message be sent to the Senate informing honourable senators of this decision.

**Madam Speaker:** The House has heard the suggestion made by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Pinard). Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

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## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

### TIME ALLOCATION FOR SECOND READING OF BILL C-30

**Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council) moved:**

That in relation to Bill C-30, an act to provide for supplementary borrowing authority for the fiscal year 1980-81, one sitting day shall be allotted to the further consideration of second reading stage of the bill; and that at 15 minutes before the expiry of the time provided for government business on that day, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this order and, in turn, every question then necessary in order to dispose of second reading stage of the bill shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

**Madam Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, my understanding is that the motion may now be debated. I would like to make a few brief comments on the subject. Madam Speaker, I think that the fact that we have waited so long to introduce the motion is evidence that the government has been quite generous toward the opposition and I will show how patient it has been in a few