

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Jamieson: I do not have that particular date with me but obviously it must have been before January 28, 1971. If members are not right in suggesting that my department is reasonably slow in these matters, which I deny emphatically, it was obviously some time in late 1970.

JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT—INQUIRY
AS TO APPLICATIONS FROM QUEBEC RESPECTING DAMS
OR OTHER PROJECTS

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Transport indicate whether any application has been received from the province of Quebec in respect of any dam project or any other projects in respect of this undertaking?

An hon. Member: Watch your language.

Mr. Stanfield: Don't say "dam".

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, so that I do not get into the same trap I will say that I do not think there have been any applications for any cotton-picking projects but we are reviewing the matter further, the Prime Minister having called it to my office's attention this morning.

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AIR TRANSPORT

LOSS OF DEPOSITS BY CUSTOMERS OF CHARTER FLIGHT
INFORMATION SERVICES

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the business failure of an air charter firm in Toronto known as Charter Flight Information Services, resulting in the loss of deposits by many customers, what action will the minister be taking to have the deposits returned to the customers, and what protection do air charter passengers have in such cases?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice as to detail. Protection, of course, is provided if the carrier is one licensed by the Canadian Transport Commission, but I do not know what the specific circumstances are in this case.

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POST OFFICE

POSITION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNIONS ON NEW
CONTRACT

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board. In light of the fact that the contract with the postal union has almost expired—I believe the date is March 27 or March 29—has the President of the Treasury Board anything to advise the House in respect of the negotiations and whether he is hopeful of an early settlement?

[Mr. Nielsen.]

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated to the hon. gentlemen both in the House and in committee, I do not think it would be helpful to constructive progress of the negotiations to conduct them in public. Consequently I will withstand the temptation to make a report. I am hopeful, of course, that we will be able to reach a settlement before the contract expiry date.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

PLANS TO REDUCE STRIKES

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. In light of the fact that the President of the Treasury Board has accepted a policy of reducing strikes in the Public Service rather than withdrawing the right to strike, can he advise the House when he will in fact be laying on the table the policy and the plans with regard to that attitude of the President of the Treasury Board and whether in fact this follows from the Bryden report?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention and, indeed, it is not my hope to lay before the House a policy on what the hon. gentleman calls strike reduction. I must confess I do not quite understand that. In so far as the so-called Bryden report is concerned, I think the House leader has already made reference to that at an earlier date.

Mr. Alexander: A further supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member wishes to ask a further supplementary but if he will look around him he will see there are many hon. members who are anxious to ask questions and we are running short of time. For the moment the Chair might be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Richmond.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that with the indulgence of the Chair, we might clear up the matter in respect of what I was trying to bring out.

Mr. Speaker: That is not a point of order. It is the responsibility of the Chair to decide when we should go to the next questioner. I have recognized the hon. member for Richmond, but wishing to be fair to the hon. member for Hamilton West I will return to him before the end of the question period.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

SHOES—MEASURES TO COUNTERACT BAD EFFECTS OF
IMPORTS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.