

Supply—Regional Development

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend should be aware that there is no discretion for the minister in these matters. The cases have been heard by the immigration appeal board and as a result of the hearings deportation orders have been issued, which the department is bound to carry out as soon as practicable.

Mr. Haidasz: As a supplementary question, could the minister inform the house when he will act on the government's 1966 white paper on immigration and, specifically, proposals 54 and 55 dealing with refugees and seamen?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, Canada's treatment of refugees conforms both in spirit and to the letter with the international convention and protocol. We have under active consideration at present the formal acceptance of this convention and protocol, which we are scrupulously observing.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**INQUIRY AS TO PAYMENT OF SALARY ARREARS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, in view of your ruling on questions of a similar nature I do not hold out great hope for this one; nevertheless I suggest it is most urgent. In the absence of the President of the Treasury Board and the Postmaster General I should like to direct it to the Prime Minister. What plans, if any, has the government to pay the arrears in postal workers' wages dating back to October 1, 1966, and the additional increases granted in October, 1968, before the new year?

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS**CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE OF POST OFFICE REPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the government house leader. In view of conversations between the government house leader and the house leader of the official opposition, would the hon. gentleman agree to refer to the standing committee on transport and communications the report of the Post Office Department so that discussions on the subject of effective work in that department, which will not be otherwise possible, may continue in the committee as per the arrangement?

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Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Yes, I will consider that, Mr. Speaker. I also wonder whether I may pose a question to the hon. member and ask whether the opposition is agreeable that the Canadian National Railways and Air Canada reports as well as the expanded terms with respect to the question of Atlantic transportation be included in the terms of reference for study by the transport committee? Is that now agreeable to the hon. member?

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Speaker, it is a somewhat unusual procedure to direct questions to members of the opposition, but I would be very happy to consider discussing this matter with the house leader.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, it is not the hon. member's day to be in the house to answer questions.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, what right does the Leader of the Opposition have to prevent eight of his frontbenchers from attending the house?

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I would expect the Prime Minister to listen more carefully to the Leader of the Opposition. I said it was not the member's day to be in the house to answer questions.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Faulkner in the chair.

The Chairman: House again in committee of supply on the estimates of the Cape Breton Development Corporation, vote 35, to be found at page 425 of the blue book.

CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
35. Payment to the Cape Breton Development Corporation to be applied by the corporation in payment of the losses incurred in the operation and maintenance in the calendar year 1968 of the coal mining and related works and undertakings acquired by the corporation under section 9 of the Cape Breton Development Corporation Act and, notwithstanding section 31(2) of the said act, for grants to municipalities on Cape Breton Island not exceeding an amount equal to the taxes that might have been levied for their 1968 fiscal year by the municipalities in respect of the personal property of the corporation if the corporation were not an agent of Her Majesty, \$20,000,000.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Chairman, as most members know, the standing committee on regional development has already given a good deal of examination to the operations of the Cape Breton Development Corporation and the 1968-69 estimates of my