

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

quired by the collective agreements and I understand that the company has maintained that position.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport.

He is quite aware of the objections raised by the province of Quebec against the setting up of the Thompson commission. Is the government taking them into consideration. Is the government taking into account the Quebec objections to that commission?

[*Text*]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** The correspondence on this subject was tabled in the house some little time ago and is a matter of public record. I think it would be inadvisable for me to attempt to summarize that correspondence, but I will see that the hon. gentleman is given the number of the return.

**Mr. Georges Valade (St. Mary):** Would the minister tell me whether he agrees with the statement in the press on February 2 attributed to Mr. Lesage that the Thompson commission was intolerable? Does the Minister of Transport agree with Mr. Lesage in this regard?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** That is not a matter which concerns the administration of my department; therefore it appears to me I should not answer the question. I would be breaking the rules of the house if I did.

**Mr. Valade:** On a point of order, the minister certainly answered the first question, accepting responsibility in this matter by saying he would not make a statement until he had received the report. Now he refuses to say whether he agrees with the statement by Mr. Lesage that this commission was intolerable. I am asking the minister to accept his responsibility and tell us whether he agrees with Mr. Lesage.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. It does seem to me that the hon. member is asking for comment on something which appeared in a newspaper, and I do not think he should ask the minister to be as broadminded as that.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport.

Can he tell us whether he has taken any action in order to postpone the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Dixon-Speas report on this matter?

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[*Text*]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** There has been no interference of any kind with the management of Air Canada.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Lucien Plourde (Quebec West):** Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Transport?

Following the statement of the minister to the effect that the Thompson commission will sit in Montreal soon, will the minister force this commission on the various groups of Quebec which do not want to recognize it and require that it be abolished? Is he aware of the claims of those employees?

[*Text*]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, that is a question I would like to think about for a while.

### AIRPORTS

#### BAGOTVILLE, QUE.—INQUIRY AS TO CONSTRUCTION START

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Maurice Côté (Chicoutimi):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Would he be ready to tell the house some good news regarding the construction of an air terminal at Bagotville, Saguenay, and to tell us when such work can start?

[*Text*]

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** The government is very anxious to get ahead with this work, which will be of advantage to that whole region, and to get a new air terminal at Bagotville constructed as quickly as possible. I have asked the officials to push this ahead as fast as they can, and I will try to give the hon. member a date as soon as I can make inquiries.

### INDUSTRY

#### LOCATION OF SECOND HEAVY WATER PLANT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. R. Southam (Moose Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry. With respect to the announcement last week made simultaneously here and in the Saskatchewan legislature, to the effect that Estevan would be the location of Canada's second heavy water plant, and in view of the fact that the Western Deuter-