

Oral Questions

out. So far as the accounts of veterans are concerned, there will be some provision made to see that the services are provided.

Mr. Speaker: On second thought, I think that question might well have been placed on the order paper, but the question has been asked and the hon. member has received a reply.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

**ALLEGED REPAIRING OF CANADIAN LOCOMOTIVES IN
UNITED STATES—POSSIBLE LOSS OF JOBS—
GOVERNMENT ACTION**

Mr. John Wise (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Labour. Will the Minister of Labour investigate immediately the situation in the city of St. Thomas where Canadian locomotives usually repaired in Canadian shops have been sent to the United States for repairs? If this situation continues it will result in the loss of a large number of Canadian jobs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister might reply briefly to the question.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate having more details from the hon. member. On the face of it, it would appear to be a question which should be more appropriately directed to the Minister of Manpower or the Minister of Transport.

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COMMUNICATIONS

**ALLEGED INCREASE BY BELL CANADA IN RATES
CHARGED RURAL SUBSCRIBERS—REQUEST FOR FREEZE
AND INVESTIGATION**

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister who is speaking for the Minister of Communications today. In view of the current practice of Bell Canada to increase, without corroboration, basic monthly rates for rural telephone subscribers living outside the company's core boundaries in the Sudbury area, and in view of the hardship these increases are causing many rural residents, will the minister consider instigating a thorough investigation of these rate increases by Bell Canada and the placing of a freeze on increases until such time as the investigation is completed?

Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the minister who is away on government business I am pleased to take this question as notice and I am sure the minister will answer it when he returns.

[Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan).]

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

**PRICE OF FEED GRAIN TO EASTERN CANADA UNDER NEW
POLICY**

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the minister responsible for the Canadian Livestock Feed Board a question which is supplementary to that of the hon. member for Bellechasse. In view of the fact that when he announced his new policy, the minister stated that the price of feed grain in eastern Canada would be considerably lower, that this announcement was made three months ago, and that the price of feed grain has in fact remained unchanged, could he advise the House when he expects the price of feed grain to go down in eastern Canada?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the new feed grain policy is not to create either lower or higher prices for feed grains but rather to ensure availability at the same basic price plus costs all across the country. The implementation of this policy has been in progress. The price base under this new policy, in other words, based on the average price in western Canada, will be announced very soon.

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DRUGS

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF LEDAIN COMMISSION

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Could the minister advise the House when the LeDain report will be out, what is the reason for the delay and why is it not out already?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I should like to know the answer to that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Athabasca.

Mr. Reynolds: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I apologize to the hon. member for Athabasca, but the hon. member is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, the minister promised this report months ago. It has cost the people of this country millions of dollars. The last time the minister was asked the same question he said it was delayed because of translation. I cannot understand his explanation and I think it is contemptuous of the minister not to present the report to the House.

● (1600)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.