

Oral Questions

However, subsequent to the meeting to which the hon. member referred I asked that a hold be placed on any negotiations and that nothing further should be done. There is one problem: we may have reached a point at which we have a legal obligation toward three of these individuals. I am not certain of this yet and have asked that it be verified.

* * *

STATUS OF WOMEN

REQUEST FOR OUTLINE OF MEASURES TO IMPROVE STATUS

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister? In view of the fact that there are only 15 days left before the end of International Women's Year, will the right hon. gentleman advise the House specifically what he has done for the women of this country during the past year?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Let's hear it, Pierre!

* * *

AIR TRANSPORTPOSSIBILITY OF RESTRICTIONS ON UNILINGUAL PILOTS—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport? Is he or his department considering placing any restriction on the licensing of unilingual English-speaking pilots flying into the Province of Quebec in Canadian air space or on unilingual French-speaking pilots flying from the Province of Quebec into the remainder of Canadian air space? If not, is it the intention of the government to impose any such restrictions?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): The existence of English and French controls throughout the country makes a simple negative to the first part of the question straightforward. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, the only issue at the moment is the broad one of the pilot's basic ability to perform the functions which are required having regard to the control facilities which are available.

GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ENSURE SAFETY WHEN ADOPTING
BILINGUAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL REGULATIONS

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): In the light of the answer given by the minister, may I ask what precautions or extra safeguards are under consideration by his department in order to avoid tragedies which are inherent in the examples of near-misses which come to our attention—there was one recently when a matter of a mere 20 to 40 feet separated two jumbo aircraft in the United States where only one language is being used. What extra precautions are being taken by the department to avoid this additional safety hazard which his policy will likely cause?

[Mr. Buchanan.]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): The main precaution I think I shall have to take is to avoid misapprehensions which the hon. member may create in trying to relate particular instances to the language question.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lang: As he pointed out, the incident to which he referred occurred in another country where one language is in use. Canada has a record, I think I can safely say, as having one of the safest procedures anywhere in the world with respect to air space and flying procedures. It is our intention to uphold that standard. We are confident we can do so and, in addition, better meet the needs of people using both languages.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMYREQUEST FOR ESTIMATE OF REAL GROWTH AND JOB
CREATION

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In November, 1974, the former Minister of Finance predicted that real growth in the economy in 1975 would be four per cent and that a quarter of a million new jobs would be created. As there are now only 15 days left in the year, and since only 123,000 jobs have been created to date, would the minister indicate what is likely to be the real growth in 1975 and what will be the shortfall as compared with the prediction of the former minister with respect to job creation?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): As the hon. gentleman will recall, in the budget of June, 1975, my predecessor had something to say on the same question.

Mr. Stevens: Would the minister indicate what his prediction is for 1976 concerning real growth in the Canadian economy and job creation in that year?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would say that my aspiration is 5 per cent. But there are a lot of factors, of course, which are beyond my direct control.

* * *

NATIONAL PARKSJASPER—POSSIBILITY CANADIAN NATIONAL DIVISIONAL
HEADQUARTERS WILL BE RELOCATED—CONSULTATION WITH
RESIDENTS

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Would the hon. gentleman advise the House whether the parks branch has dedicated any funds to having studies made of the question of relocating the divisional headquarters of the CNR and its facilities away from Jasper National Park? What has been done with regard to consulting the people of Banff and Jasper and neighbouring regions with regard to this matter?