

not have plans that are available in metric? I would also add that in my earlier question I meant to include the territories as well as the provinces.

Mr. Cosgrove: Madam Speaker, my information is that the corporation is attempting to persuade and encourage the industry to follow the course of using metric in all plans that are submitted. I understand that this has taken a little bit of time. I understand as well that the industry, through its associations of builders and so on, is attempting to encourage builders and the industry itself to equip itself to comply with the regulations.

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ENERGY

COAL—SUPPLY TO SYDNEY STEEL CORPORATION

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Would the acting minister immediately cause to be investigated the circumstances whereby the reserves of coal supplied by Devco to the Sydney Steel Corporation have become precariously low on site, and any unexpected interruption in production would cause this already troubled corporation great difficulty. Could I have that undertaking?

An hon. Member: Where is the acting minister?

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Who says there is one?

An hon. Member: There isn't one.

An hon. Member: Someone answer the question.

[Translation]

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I shall be happy to take notice of the question and refer it to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. I shall see to it that the hon. member receives a reply as soon as possible.

[English]

Madam Speaker: Does the hon. member have a supplementary question?

Mr. MacKay: Yes, Madam Speaker. This time I will direct it to the government House leader. Perhaps the House leader will also take under representation the fact that there appears to be more money being made from sales to the Sydney Steel Corporation, which is very close to Devco, than is being made on sales to customers such as Stelco or on export sales. In view of the fact that these corporations are both vital to Cape Breton and that maximum co-operation between them is necessary, would the House leader convey to his colleague the request to make certain that Sysco is receiving all the benefits of its close proximity to Devco for the mutual benefit of the

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area and not being charged a price that is unreasonable, having regard to all the circumstances?

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, I shall certainly tell the minister responsible about the comments made by the hon. member in his question.

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● (1500)

[English]

RAILWAYS

GRAIN TRANSPORTATION—ALLEGED SLOW-DOWN IN ALBERTA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Garnet M. Bloomfield (London-Middlesex): Madam Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Following allegations of a slow-down in grain movements from southern Alberta, is the minister able, through his own office or through the grain transportation co-ordination office, to bring pressure on the railways in Alberta and British Columbia to implement measures which will correct this situation?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, a number of entities have tried to help the parties to reach some conclusions, to come to some agreement, but this has not yet proved to be successful. The parties themselves have negotiated quite hard and the Department of Labour has also sent a negotiator. He came to an agreement which the labour side could not accept. Then the Canadian Transport Commission for the western division has been around, the Canadian grain co-ordinator has been around, all kinds of people have tried to help but have not yet been successful. I am trying on my own now.

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

PUBLIC OPINION POLLS CONDUCTED BY CANADIAN UNITY INFORMATION OFFICE

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice and is a follow-up to questions asked earlier about polls taken by the Canadian Unity Information Office. In a statement in his letter to members of Parliament the minister said that he could not possibly release three of those surveys because they could be injurious to the conduct of federal-provincial affairs.

Mr. Clark: What nonsense.

Mr. Nystrom: I should like to ask the minister whether he could possibly elaborate a little more on why the results and details of these polls might prejudice the relations between the provinces and the federal government, or why it might be injurious? What possible questions could be asked that could