

longshoremen's strike spreading on the east coast and in particular if he has had any meetings or been active himself in connection with the whole matter?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): In so far as the east coast strike is concerned, I have simply asked for an up to date report. It is much too early to assess the benefits or the disadvantages insofar as Canadian east coast ports are concerned. I will have something on it later today.

On the matter of the strike on the west coast which is affecting the port of Vancouver, I am meeting this afternoon with representatives of the Canadian Importers Association to see if there is any way out of what is presently a most difficult situation all round.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

REQUEST FOR COVERAGE OF ROBERT LEMIEUX PRESS CONFERENCE BY TELEVISION AND RADIO

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): I have a question for the Solicitor General. Did he or the security planning group in his department request Channel 10 television, Montreal, and Radio-Canada to cover a press conference by Robert Lemieux and to report to the department?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, this certainly occurred without the knowledge or the participation of my officials. If this originated from an employee of my department and is contrary to freedom of the press, I think that Radio-Canada and private stations were justified in objecting to this kind of practice. I have asked the deputy minister to inform me of what happened.

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POST OFFICE

STEPS TO INCREASE SALARIES OF POSTMASTERS

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): This question has become urgent and pressing because of the lack of government action.

An hon. Member: So what's new?

Mr. Muir: I should like to direct it to the honourable and genial Postmaster General. In view of the fact that postmasters in staff post offices receive less salary than their assistants, when will steps be taken to correct this anomaly?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I can point out that the rates of pay of our postmasters are related to those of their subordinates and that some of these subordinates have already negotiated new rates. This is why the anomaly exists. A new contract is being negotiated which includes the postmasters, and when an agreement is signed the rates will be retroactive to Octo-

Inquiries of the Ministry

ber, 1970, which will do away with the anomaly. I think that a settlement is imminent.

Mr. Muir: I thank the minister for his frank and kind reply. Can he assure me that if this does not take place cabinet ministers will receive less salary than their parliamentary secretaries?

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NORTHERN AFFAIRS

IMPLEMENTATION OF LAND USE REGULATIONS

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the minister's recent statement about not proceeding with the Yukon minerals bill this session, will the land use regulations for the north also be held up until the Yukon minerals bill is proceeded with?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): No, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

Mr. Harding: When does the minister expect the proposed land use regulations to become operative in the north?

Mr. Chrétien: In 15 days, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ACTION TO PREVENT SALE OF DRUGS TO STUDENTS

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put my question to the Solicitor General.

Since there is a law which prohibits the sale and use of certain drugs in Canada and since very strong pressure is applied in schools, at least in the province of Quebec, to sell dope to students, could the minister tell us if agents of the R.C.M.P. are tracking these dope peddlers?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): We try to enforce the law with the co-operation of provincial and municipal police forces.

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[English]

PUBLIC SERVICE

EXTENSION OF REGIONAL PAY DIFFERENTIALS

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): My question is for the President of the Treasury Board. Will the policy of pay differentials in the regions of Canada, which has been presented as the federal position in the case of nurses be extended as a matter of policy to other categories in the Public Service?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): The policy of pay differentials for people not required to have