

FOOD PRICES

COST OF RESEARCH BY REVIEW BOARD

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question to the Prime Minister is related to Mrs. Plumptre's announcement, after the food prices committee met the other day, of research into food prices. In view of the fact the House has had no estimate given to it of the annual cost of the Food Prices Review Board, in view of the fact that it must have been a government decision to send out these researchers, and in view of the fact that Mrs. Plumptre announced that it is an expensive operation, can the Prime Minister tell the House today what the estimated cost of this latest research project of the Food Prices Review Board is?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is seeking the kind of information that is normally sought by a written question on the order paper.

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CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SUGGESTED PROSECUTION OF PRESIDENT FOR ALLEGED FAILURE TO FOLLOW LAW

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the prosecution of railway workers now under way for disobeying a statute, will the government follow the same procedure under the same section of the Criminal Code and charge Tom Kent, the President of the Cape Breton Development Corporation, under the same section of that act?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am going to take that question as notice.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. There is absolutely no need for the minister to take the question as notice. He already has the documentary proof in his hands provided by Mr. Kent himself as late as June of this year. The minister of Regional Economic Expansion knows all about it and the Minister of Transport is also aware that the legislation has not been carried out as passed by the House in 1967. Two committees of parliament have supported my contention in this regard. I will lay charges against Tom Kent if the government has the guts to do to Tom Kent what it is doing to the railway workers.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville and then the hon. member for Charlevoix.

Oral Questions
AGRICULTURE

BEEF—POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF EXPORT CONTROLS IN LIGHT OF LIFTING OF PRICE CONTROL BY PRESIDENT NIXON

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce I shall direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact the President of the United States has lifted price controls on beef, is the Prime Minister considering terminating the controls on the export of Canadian beef to the United States at this time or within the next couple of days?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): We have this under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Nystrom: In view of the fact the Minister of Agriculture intimated in the House that as soon as price controls in the United States were lifted export controls in this country would be terminated, will the Prime Minister be making an announcement this week so that Canadian producers will not suffer?

Mr. Trudeau: That is exactly the matter I said was under consideration.

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[Translation]

ENERGY

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF OIL PIPELINE TO MONTREAL—EFFECTS ON PROPOSED SUPERTANKER PORT AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN QUEBEC

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Considering that the answers concerning the construction of a pipeline for the province of Quebec seem much more unspecific and hesitant today than last week, is the right hon. Prime Minister aware that the representations made by Quebec are mostly due to the fact that the political program of the Quebec Liberal party was in fact based on the construction of a superport for tankers and the development of the petrochemical industry?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not agree that we are going back on what we said previously. If the hon. member will just look at my statement in last week's *Hansard*, he will note that at the very beginning of my announcement concerning the pipeline, I said that the government would soon need to have consultations about this matter with representatives from the provinces and the industry.