

## Oral Questions

[English]

## AIRPORTS

## WINNIPEG—DATE EXPANSION OF FACILITIES WILL BEGIN

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Since he has been in Winnipeg and appears satisfied that there is necessity for expansion of Winnipeg international airport, when will construction at the airport begin, and has the government at the present time let tenders for construction of the additions which will be needed? My question is for the Minister of Transport.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the hon. member addressed his question to the Minister of Finance, perhaps he might reword it for me.

**Mr. Murta:** I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I address my question to the Minister of Transport. Since the government has at the present time expressed satisfaction that expansion of the Winnipeg international airport is necessary, I should like to ask the minister whether he has given thought to letting public tenders for construction of additional facilities at the airport, and when does he envisage construction beginning?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, we have just completed a very satisfactory and successful study of the question of the expansion of the airport and the alternatives which are available—that is to say, expansion on site or expansion in another place. Last week I released a study and asked for further comments on it within the next period of 60 days from members of the public. At that point we will begin to draw up a specific plan of action for the various improvements involved, and then in due course over time move to the actual construction phase.

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## HEALTH

## REQUEST FOR COMMENT ON STATEMENT BY DR. EPSTEIN

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare regarding an address given by Dr. Epstein at York University based on the following statement. "The defects in scientific testing range from extensive incompetence to manipulation and distortion and actual data destruction on food additives, drugs, animal feeds, pesticides, auto pollutants, chemical waste and water quality". My question to the minister is: in view of the serious effects of this statement, what steps has the minister taken regarding this situation?

● (1442)

**Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to obtain the permission of the hon. member to reply thoroughly tomorrow or in the coming session.

[Mr. Chrétien.]

## IMMIGRATION

## MEDICAL CONDITIONS WHICH PREVENT ADMISSION TO CANADA—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF REGULATIONS

**Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. The minister, in a letter dated November 3, announced that persons in Canada on the authority of a minister's permit, who could not get landed immigrant status due to medical prohibitions, will be eligible to receive landed immigrant status and possibly immediate citizenship status in some cases. I should like to applaud the government because this action has been taken finally. I should like to ask the minister: in what cases could persons be inadmissible due to medical conditions, as the minister announced on November 3.

**Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, we were aiming primarily at epileptics who could not get into this country before under the old legislation. They were allowed in by ministerial permits, but they could not apply for Canadian citizenship. We propose to land them as immigrants and start their time of residence in Canada from the time they actually came into the country to facilitate their securing Canadian citizenships.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, on the basis of the answer just given by the minister, can I ask him whether he would be willing to table the regulations whereby persons will know exactly which medical prohibitions will no longer be prohibitions and which will remain in place?

**Mr. Cullen:** Mr. Speaker, in this specific instance we had a target group in mind. Already we have communicated with them and expressed the government's intention to take this channel. Of course, the regulations will be tabled in the usual way. I hope they will be ready for study this month. We expect to proclaim the bill somewhere around the latter part of March.

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## INDUSTRY

## AUTOMOBILES—RETENTION OF MONEY IN CANADA FOR RESEARCH

**Mr. Joe Flynn (Kitchener):** Mr. Speaker, my question was for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, but in view of his absence, I should like to direct it to the parliamentary secretary. Over \$200 million a year is being taken out of Canada from the auto industry to support research in the United States, according to Dr. Patrick McTaggart-Cowan, the former head of the Science Council of Canada. Will the minister take steps, when he is having discussions on the auto pact, to see that this research money is spent here in Canada in order to create more jobs, boost our research and development efforts and keep Canadian dollars in Canada?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!