Oral Questions

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to make note of his question; I will answer it at a later date.

[English]

TRANSPORT

STUDY OF RAILWAY PASSENGER SERVICE IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO BY TRANSPORT COMMISSION— LOCAL CONSULTATION

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact it has become very apparent this week that the Canadian Transport Commission study of railway passenger service in southwestern Ontario is far different in scope and intent from what was indicated by the minister in response to questions over the last ten months in the House, can the minister tell us if he was ever aware of the terms of reference of the CTC study before it started and, if so—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubt whether it is in order at this time to ask a minister if he was ever aware of a fact or a situation. That is hardly a proper way to put a question. Perhaps the hon. member might rephrase the question.

Mr. Jarvis: In light of the fact that the minister and officials of the CTC have indicated that an important part of this study would be local consultation with the people in the area affected, and in light of the fact it became apparent on Tuesday of this week that no consultation had taken place, would the minister indicate whether he approved the study being conducted and completed without local consultation?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is speaking about local consultation. I think it was stated before the standing committee by Mr. Benson that these consultations are going to take place and that the report will likely be ready in a few weeks.

ENERGY

INITIATIVE FOR MEETING BETWEEN FEDERAL AND ALBERTA MINISTERS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources who has referred to the meeting he had in Calgary with a minister of the government of Alberta. Can the minister tell the House whether the meeting in Alberta was held on the initiative of himself and his department or on the initiative of the government of Alberta?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): At my initiative, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

TRANSPORT

PROVISION OF RAILWAY CARS TO SHIP BRITISH COLUMBIA LUMBER

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact that the lumber industry in central and northern British Columbia is losing \$3 million a week and the fact that rookie Senator Ray Perrault announced in Prince George while he was representing the minister there during the opening of an airport terminal that there are a thousand brand new railway cars on the way up to Prince George to alleviate the problem, can the minister tell the House by what mode of transportation these rail cars are moving to Prince George? It has been a month, Mr. Speaker.

• (1450

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Before I answer this question, Mr. Speaker, I should like to read exactly what the senator said.

[Translation]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

INQUIRY RESPECTING EXTENSION OF SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES OF MORE THAN 500 PEOPLE

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State.

On April 3 of this year, I asked him a question about a complete master plan for the extension of television and radio services in communities of at least 500 inhabitants. The minister replied then that he was discussing these projects with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and would make a report to the cabinet.

Can he tell us if these consultations are finished and if he will soon announce the program approved by the cabinet?

[English]

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are working very hard on that at the present time and I hope to be in a position to make an announcement shortly.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

JAMES BAY POWER PROJECT—COURT DECISION ALLOWING WORK TO CONTINUE—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO PREVENT FURTHER DAMAGE TO NATIVE PEOPLE'S LIFE STYLE

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Because the temporary injunction of Mr. Justice Malouf upheld the argument of the native people of James Bay that irreparable damage would be caused to their way of life, and in view of the fact the appeal court did not refute this argument in