

we can get this project off the ground and not wait for ten years from now, as we have to with his new manpower policy?

Mr. Axworthy: As you well know, Madam Speaker, the Minister of Transport has a very direct and personal interest in improving service in the Ottawa region. I will be glad to consult with him both on transport and on manpower matters.

* * *

LABOUR CONDITIONS

REQUEST FOR ADEQUATE FUNDING TO ENSURE SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Hamilton West): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Labour, I will direct my question to the parliamentary secretary. The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, operating out of the health and science building at McMaster University in Hamilton, has been committed to the increasingly vital role of promoting the fundamental right of Canadians to a healthy and safe working environment. Can the centre be assured by the government of adequate funding to carry out this important mandate effectively and efficiently?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Louis R. Desmarais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his question.

An hon. Member: A yes or no will do.

Mr. Desmarais: The creation of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety was authorized by an act of Parliament in 1978, with the active support of all parties in the House, I might add. When the bill was being considered the then minister of labour, the Hon. John Munro, stated that this vitally important new institution would be financed through funds appropriated by Parliament. This has been done in the last two years and it is the intention of this government to continue to do that.

The organization and development of the centre—

Some hon. Members: Speech.

Mr. Desmarais: —is moving ahead very rapidly in accordance with—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Desmarais: —the plans of the board of governors which is comprised of unions, management—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Desmarais: May I come to my conclusion?

Privilege—Mr. S. Robinson

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1500)

Mr. Desmarais: I might say, Madam Speaker, that the increased activities of the organization would require a much heavier budget in the year 1981-82. The present Minister of Labour has committed himself to seek—

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

PRIVILEGE

MR. FLEMING—STATEMENT MADE BY MR. CLARK

Madam Speaker: I have a number of notices of questions of privilege. Does the Minister of State for Multiculturalism (Mr. Fleming) still feel he has a question of privilege?

Mr. Clark: Yes or no?

Hon. Jim Fleming (Minister of State, Multiculturalism): Madam Speaker, I believe I had the basis of a question of privilege, and that is why I gave you notice. But on the basis that there was no deliberate intention in the charge made, I am willing to withdraw the question of privilege. If, however, there is an indication it was deliberate, I will try to make my point. In reviewing it, I believe it is up in the air. The words do not state it but there is an implication. I do not think the right hon. member would be deliberate in that charge.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, I, of course, would not suggest the minister is being deliberate in anything that he does.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

MR. ROBINSON (BURNABY)—STATEMENTS MADE BY MR. BLAIS

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege concerning certain remarks made in this House on October 16 last by the hon. Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Blais) during his learned discourse on the notice of motion before this House. At page 3755 of *Hansard* for October 16, 1980, the minister, in referring to the distinguished president of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said:

—Mr. Tarnapolsky, is a strong supporter of the legislation with which we are dealing, including the entrenchment of the bill of rights.

I regret to say that this is a completely misleading statement on the part of the minister. I would ask he take this opportunity to make it quite clear that in fact the contrary is true and that Mr. Tarnapolsky opposes very strongly a number of important sections of this proposed charter of rights.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. Before allowing the hon. minister to reply, because I feel that he should have the opportunity to do so, I do want to remind the hon. member for