

## Oral Questions

## INDUSTRY

## SHORTAGE OF RAW MATERIALS AND RESULTING HIGHER PRICES—REQUEST FOR DETAILED INVENTORY

**Mr. Bill Kempling (Halton-Wentworth):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In light of numerous statements by buyers that present or pending shortages of basic raw materials such as steel, chemicals, copper and zinc are constraining expansion and placing increased pressure on prices, will the minister tell the House whether the government has done a detailed inventory recently of our basic materials and, if so, will he table that study?

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, we keep a very close watching brief, on a commodity by commodity basis, on materials that might be going into short supply, but we have no such over-all report as the hon. gentleman has suggested.

**Mr. Kempling:** In light of the continuing complaint of the minister that one of the main causes of inflation in world demand, is the government prepared to establish domestic price guidelines in these key areas to prevent excess foreign demand forcing up prices of basic materials in Canada?

**Mr. Gillespie:** Mr. Speaker, I think the debate we have had in respect of this question would indicate that such a policy would not be effective.

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[Translation]

## AIRPORTS

## MIRABEL—RIGHT OF EXPROPRIATED PARTIES TO SEEK ARBITRATION—MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport.

In view of the fact that some injustice seems to be involved in several offers for compensation to be paid by the government for the purchase of farms and other properties in this area for the construction of the Mirabel airport near Montreal, and for the satisfaction of the people in question, would the minister tell us whether he will allow those land owners, who think their rights are encroached upon, to go to arbitration to settle their claims?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the Expropriation Act provides for judiciary action and some did go to court to challenge compensations which they did not find satisfactory. In fact this procedure is provided for by law and out of 3,000 cases in dispute I think only 350 are outstanding out of which 150 will be easily settled.

## MIRABEL—INQUIRY RESPECTING EXPROPRIATION PROCEEDINGS—INEQUALITY OF OFFERS

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a supplementary.

[Mr. Speaker.]

At present, exactly 381 cases have not been settled. In 90 cases, the owners did not get any anticipated payment and the others had one. In the case of people who did get a payment and do not live on their farms, I should like to know under which authority the government can sublet or let this land to other people than the farmer who has not yet sold his farm?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I feel the hon. member is inviting the minister to express a legal view. If my interpretation is not correct, perhaps the minister might try to give an answer to the hon. member for Témiscamingue.

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the expropriation is a fact: the federal government owns all the land that will be occupied by the airport. On the second point, concerning the 381 cases in question, I could perhaps give the hon. member a plan of the division. It should not perhaps be necessary to give a global figure because we have not been able to communicate with some owners. Thus the figure of 381 out of 3,000 is exaggerated and it should perhaps be reduced.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a supplementary.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member can ask his supplementary, then I shall recognize the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a supplementary.

I should like to know why some government experts give \$64,000 to a farmer for his property whereas they offer only \$51,000 to his neighbour who has exactly the same acreage of land, with similar buildings.

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I should have both relevant files at hand. With the hon. colleague, we could perhaps see why—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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[English]

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

## MONITORING OF SALES TAX AND TARIFF CUTS TO ENSURE BENEFITS REACH CONSUMERS—REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. He will recall that for some four months I have been asking for a report on the results of the so-called monitoring of the passing on of reductions in customs and excise taxes announced in the budget, with no success. Can he tell me what is going on, and indicate briefly what the monitoring process is and the reason for the delay?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, there is a unit in my department that is carrying out the work which involves various surveys. As I said to the hon. member and the House the