

*Oral Questions***PUBLIC SERVICE****SUGGESTION THAT BILINGUAL BONUS PROGRAM BE
SCRUTINIZED BY ANTI-INFLATION BOARD**

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the President of the Treasury Board? It is supplementary to that directed to him a few moments ago by the hon. member for Maisonneuve and it has to do with the government's program, presently before cabinet, with respect to bonuses for bilingual public servants. Can the President of the Treasury Board assure the House that any bilingual bonus program for public servants, whether by way of direct pay increases or indirectly through job classification, will be subject to scrutiny by the Anti-Inflation Board?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the commission determines for itself whether or not it has to intervene. At this moment, I do not know if we will request the opinion of the commission or proceed after agreement with the union. What is important now is to devise a system that would be satisfactory to the government and to the unions representing all employees in the public service.

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[*English*]

AIR TRANSPORT**INTRODUCTION OF BILINGUAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL IN
PROVINCES OTHER THAN QUEBEC**

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transport. Since the introduction of bilingualism for air traffic controllers is based on constitutional grounds, can the minister inform the House as to his schedule for introducing bilingual services into airports in other provinces of Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): The studies which have been carried out relate essentially to the Province of Quebec, although there was an examination of the question in relation to the National Capital Region. The question of any possible extension is a very difficult one indeed because of the nature of the bilingual quality of the controllers who would be required and there is therefore no plan in this regard. Our first and obvious step is to examine the use of both languages in air traffic control in the Province of Quebec, as the statement I made the other day indicates.

Mr. Friesen: Since many of the pilots in the association in Quebec are naturally bilingual and many others are unilingual French, is it not reasonable to suppose it is only a matter of time before these pilots will request bilingual services in other provinces?

Mr. Lang: That is obviously a hypothetical question. The use of English is very desirable, if not essential, for pilots because of the use of English in international flights as a second or alternate language generally; that will still have a bearing on the question.

[*Mr. Jamieson.*]

TRANSPORT**PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF OPERATION OF RAILWAY BRANCH
LINES IN WESTERN CANADA—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether the Minister of Transport heard my motion under Standing Order 43 or not, but I should like to ask him this. In view of the fact that the railways propose in the coming months to suspend operations on a number of branch lines in Western Canada, has the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board agreed to this, even though many hundreds of Canadian Wheat Board shipping orders will not be filled as a result.

● (1450)

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the procedures put into effect by the railways to discontinue the movement on certain lines in the wintertime is not a matter which is brought to the attention of the minister for his approval, but is action that is taken by the railways themselves. Of course, this is not new action this winter; it is a thing which has happened for many, many years.

Mr. Benjamin: That is a lot of crap, that answer.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Withdraw.

Some hon. Members: Shame, shame.

An hon. Member: What do you say to that, Otto?

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[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE**GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO CURB WASTE OF FOOD**

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to ask the Minister of Agriculture who has already received notice of it.

During the recent Canadian Agricultural Outlook Conference, the minister asked the Canadian people to stop wasting food. He also said that with world supplies enabling to survive only 35 days, the situation would be catastrophic if we were to have the same problem with our next North American crops as the Russians had with theirs last year. Given the gravity of these possibilities, could the minister tell this House to what extent, according to him, Canadians will agree to be more reasonable in this respect and can he also say what measures are considered by the government if the wastage goes on?

[*English*]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we do have plans. The government has put out publications through different departments on how people can make sure food does not go to waste; by proper storing, proper cooking and by proper buying. I think we can do this by better diets, by eating better and by loving more.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!