

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There cannot be a supplementary—

Mr. Nesbitt: Well—

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member resume his seat? There cannot be a supplementary to a question which has been ruled out of order. The hon. member may wish to ask a related question.

Mr. Nesbitt: On a point of order, since Your Honour has been so kind to point out how the same thing can be accomplished, would the minister care to make a statement on motions the next day he is in the house, tomorrow or Wednesday next?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, I will convey that request to the Minister of Transport.

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister with respect to the absence of the Minister of Transport. Will the Prime Minister assure the house that he will cause the minister to make up this time he has missed, dock his pay, keep him in after school, or do something?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Order. That cannot be accepted as a supplementary question.

AIR CANADA

REPORTED SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE WITH EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Is the minister in a position to confirm reports that the dispute between Air Canada and the air line employees' association has been settled?

Hon. Bryce S. Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I understand that some time during the middle of the night the representatives of Air Canada and the representatives of the particular union concerned reached an agreement that is now, of course, subject to ratification by the union members and by Air Canada. I am very appreciative of the hon. member's reference to this question, and I particularly hope both parties may very soon ratify what I think is a very fair agreement.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Inquiries of the Ministry

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

CHURCHILL, MAN.—NEGOTIATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT OF TOWN SITE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. B. Osler (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Some time ago he indicated to the house that he had been in communication with the premier of Manitoba about possible federal assistance to the town of Churchill. I wonder whether he has anything he will be able to tell us soon on this subject, as Christmas and the recess are coming up? Have there been any results from this communication?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member knows that the information he is seeking now would normally be given by a statement on motions, but if there is urgency and the hon. member wants to give notice to the Chair the matter can be discussed at the time of adjournment.

IMMIGRATION

REQUEST FOR RETRIAL OF DEPORTATION ORDER AGAINST POLISH SEAMEN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It concerns the case of the nine Polish seamen now in detention at Halifax who have been ordered deported back to Poland. Will the minister instruct the legal counsel representing him to recommend or agree to a retrial of this particular case?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the case has been heard by the immigration appeal board. As I understand it, the board itself can determine to hear the case again if there is a claim of additional facts to be brought out, and of course there is appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. But the minister, under the law, has no discretion whatever to intervene in this particular case.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, may I pose a supplementary question, and perhaps it should be directed to the Prime Minister. Is it still the policy of the government, as stated in this house by the former prime minister on April 21, 1967, that the government will grant refuge to people from communist countries whose deportation there would certainly mean imprisonment and deprivation?