

Oral Questions

Mr. Atkey: Is the Minister of Transport prepared to honour the undertaking of his predecessor, the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo, made in the House on April 18 of last year, that all documentation and reports relevant to expropriations in the Pickering area have been made public, and that those persons objecting to the expropriations will not in the future be caught by surprise through new material previously unavailable? I might add that this undertaking—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is now making a speech. He should ask his question as briefly as possible. Perhaps the minister might reply to the hon. member's question now.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, if my predecessor made an undertaking of course it will be respected, but I want to have an opportunity to check the undertaking.

Mr. Nowlan: Oh, he is checking on you, Don!

Mr. Jamieson: Wouldn't you?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Atkey: Are the minister and the cabinet, in reaching a decision on the need for a second airport and the half billion dollars required to build it, considering alternative social needs in metropolitan Toronto such as increased federal assistance for housing, public transit and the preservation of a green belt and prime agricultural land?

PICKERING TOWNSHIP SITE—OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM TORONTO AREA TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING DECISION

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the Minister of Transport whether it is his intention to invite Members of Parliament from the Toronto area to make representations with regard to the decision on the proposed airport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think it was made clear by the former minister of transport and by the Prime Minister that the government intends to give not only Members of Parliament but the general public in the Toronto region the opportunity to make representations on the new airport, the new facilities, and the way in which transportation development should take place in the area.

MOUNT HOPE, ONTARIO—INQUIRY WHETHER EXPANSION WILL PROCEED

Mr. Bill Kempling (Halton-Wentworth): In view of the continuing uncertainty concerning the expansion of airport facilities at Hamilton, Ontario, will the minister advise the House in the clearest possible terms whether this project will proceed in the spring of 1973?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I already stated that the Port Hope airport is

going to be expanded. If this is what the hon. member has in mind, I think we have decided to go ahead.

STEPS TO REDUCE AIRCRAFT NOISE

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Regardless of what happens at Pickering, are the Minister of Transport and the government prepared to take immediate steps to reduce aircraft noise by requiring airlines to replace noisy engines with quieter models now being developed?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubts whether this is a supplementary question but, having been asked, the minister might reply. The Chair will then recognize the hon. member for York South.

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POST OFFICE

DISPUTE WITH WORKERS—ACCEPTANCE BY GOVERNMENT OF CONCILIATION BOARD PROPOSAL RESPECTING CLASSIFICATION GRIEVANCES

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General or the President of the Treasury Board. In view of reports that the conciliation board which dealt with the dispute between the Council of Postal Unions and the Post Office has now unanimously made a new proposal with respect to grievance on classifications, may I ask whether the recommendation or proposal of the conciliation board has been received by the government and whether, since the proposal would seem to lay a basis for settlement of the dispute, the government can announce its acceptance of the present proposal?

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I understand that Mr. Shime actually transmitted explanatory notes to Mr. Finkelman. This document has not been made public yet but whether it was or not there has already been a first meeting between the two parties. I understand that there is to be today new meetings between the parties at the negotiation table and the hon. member will realize that under the circumstances it is preferable to let the parties come to an agreement without making any further public statement.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: I knew that the document was in the hands of the Public Service Staff Relations Board, but the minister did not say whether he has seen it. I am going to pose my question on the assumption that he has seen it. I appreciate that this is a matter for negotiation. May I ask the minister whether the government's stated acceptance of the report of the board of conciliation necessarily includes acceptance of this additional clarification or proposal of the same board of conciliation?

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: I understand, Mr. Speaker, that remarks to clarify the situation were made to both parties, that both