

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have inquired and the circumstances are perfectly normal. It is a very normal transaction. The cost of space per square foot is \$3.90, which is very inexpensive. There is nothing at all abnormal about the transaction.

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BROADCASTING

INQUIRY AS TO DECISION ON ALLOCATION OF CHANNEL 10, VANCOUVER—REQUEST FOR FULL CBC COVERAGE OF AREA

Mr. Harry Olausen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Communications. I do not know if the decision has already been made regarding this issue, but in view of the fact that the CRTC has to make a decision, resulting from hearings that took place in Vancouver on June 11, on whether channel 10 should be assigned to the CBC or to a commercial outlet, and in view of the fact that there is large public support in the outer rural areas of the B.C. coast for the CBC's application, can the minister inform us how he intends to bring full CBC national coverage to areas that may end up with another commercial network?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I conveyed to the chairman of the CRTC the representations made by another hon. member. I do not think that the decision has yet been made, unless it was taken this morning, which is unlikely, and I know that the matter is being examined by the CRTC.

[English]

Mr. Olausen: As a supplementary question, can the minister explain why the CBC's application was not mentioned in the public notice inserted in the Vancouver newspapers, in which only the commercial applications were mentioned?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's supplementary could be placed on the order paper.

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TRANSPORT

REPORT ON RAILWAY SAFETY—DATE OF AVAILABILITY

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In light of the recent rash of train derailments and the accusations made by some members of the CTC, and the fact that the minister some time ago promised a full report from the CTC on railroad safety, is he now in a position to table that report, or can he indicate when it will be available?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I cannot table the report for the simple reason that I have not received it. The Canadian National is now inquiring into one particular accident for which it was blamed. Notwithstanding all this, Mr. Speaker, I think I

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should remind hon. members that, among the ten largest railway companies in North America, Canadian National ranks fourth in terms of security and accidents. Therefore, I do not think we should blame it too much.

Mr. Ellis: On a supplementary, I put no fault on the Canadian National, which had a very favourable—

● (1200)

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member might ask the supplementary.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, I merely want to know when we might have the CTC report on safety.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I have asked the CTC many times to rush this report because the public is worried about accidents and I am, too.

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HEALTH

REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF REGULATIONS ON EDIBLE OILS AND FATS

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. As a result of the regulation by the minister's department that starting December 1, edible oils and fats will only be allowed a maximum of C-22 fatty acids, is the minister considering delaying this order in view of the worldwide shortage of edible oils and the high percentage of western rapeseed that is of the high erucic variety?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the statement made by the hon. member, but as to his question I have no intention of delaying the regulations.

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PENITENTIARIES

KINGSTON—ESCAPE OF WOMEN PRISONERS—ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, in view of the extra perimeter security program which the minister has instituted, at considerable expense with regard to overtime, I should like to ask what steps he has taken to investigate the failure of that program at the Kingston penitentiary for women where an escape took place earlier this week.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the additional perimeter security program was not implemented at the women's penitentiary. It had been implemented at the medium security penitentiaries for men where certain precautions were necessary. As a result of the escape from the women's penitentiary—I may say that we recaptured the two women involved—extra precautions will be taken.