

Oral Questions

December and that further funds were not to be advanced by CMHC until the next stage of construction is completed. Will the minister assure the House that payments to Centennial Properties will not be speeded up until the minister has ascertained that the company is capable of completing the project and providing the desperately needed senior citizen units?

Mr. Danson: As I indicated earlier, Mr. Speaker, I will look into it thoroughly. I will not make any commitment until I know what the situation is. I want to see projects completed for senior citizens, especially in Halifax.

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INDUSTRY

SAUNDERS AIRCRAFT—POSSIBLE REPRESENTATIONS BY
HAWKER SIDDELEY OR MANITOBA—GOVERNMENT
INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Can the minister advise whether the Hawker Siddeley aircraft corporation or the province of Manitoba has made representation either to the minister or his department with reference to Saunders of Gimli, Manitoba?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge there have been no representations by Hawker Siddeley on behalf of or with respect to Saunders Aircraft. I have had discussions with the province of Manitoba with regard to the difficulties of the Saunders Aircraft Company.

Mr. Whiteway: In view of the problems of Saunders up to this point, and the fact the financing was done almost exclusively by the province of Manitoba, is the minister now in a position to indicate the type of financing or aid he has in mind for Saunders and whether it will be in the same proportion as that given to eastern companies such as de Havilland?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, we have had discussions with regard to Export Development Corporation financing and with regard to PAIT grants for any industrial applications. To date there have been two problems. One is that the advance in industrial technology has not met the terms of the program for the advancement of industrial technology. The other is that the firm has been unable to sell its aircraft outside the country in order to take advantage of Export Development Corporation financing.

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BROADCASTING

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALLOCATION OF CHANNEL TEN
IN VANCOUVER

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Communications. Since the hearings of the Canadian Radio and Television Commission on the allocation of channel ten in Vancouver are now
[Mr. Gilbert.]

completed and because of the long delay in announcing the abortive results of channel ten hearings the last time they were held, can the minister advise when the allocation of this channel will be announced?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give any specific date. It is a thorny problem, as mentioned by the hon. member. A first hearing did not result in the issuance of a broadcasting permit. Unfortunately, the date of a decision remains the secret of the CRTC. However, I could inquire whether the CRTC is now ready to promise a decision for a specific date.

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[English]

PUBLISHING

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO ENSURE UNITED STATES EDITION
OF GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS NOT SOLD IN CANADA

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I assure him it concerns a very important principle in Canadian publishing. In view of the recent speech by his colleague, the Secretary of State, in West Virginia to United States publishers when he stated that the Canadian government is prepared to intervene and scrutinize carefully any impending new foreign presence in Canadian book publishing, what action is the minister taking to ensure that the United States publisher Sterling will not be permitted to sell the American edition of the Guinness Book of Records in Canada, protected by a monopoly, thus taking away 50,000 annual sales of this book by a Canadian publisher, Mel Hurtig of Edmonton, who depends on this book for 20 per cent of his business and who is about to receive an award as Canadian publisher of the year?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I have no power under the Foreign Investment Review Act to deal with a commercial transaction of this nature. I fully appreciate the problem the hon. member has mentioned. I deplore the transfer but, as I have said, I have no power under the Foreign Investment Review Act to intervene.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Third and fourth reports of Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry, in both official languages—Mr. Béchard.

[Editor's Note: For texts of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]