

question. This government should admit the facts, get the remedial work done and then iron out the cost-sharing arrangement.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, work has been going ahead and I expect it to continue.

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AIR TRANSPORT

PACIFIC WESTERN AIRLINES—SUGGESTED RESCINDING OF ORDER PROHIBITING MOVING OF HEAD OFFICE FROM VANCOUVER

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact the Supreme Court of Canada has now ruled that the Alberta government had the right to purchase shares in Pacific Western—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: I knew I would finally lead this group to my left if I sat here long enough. Will the minister now rescind that arrogant order in council which set out that the head office of that company could not be moved from Vancouver to Calgary?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, because the order was not arrogant, it does not need rescinding. The order simply said that the move should not take place until the Supreme Court decision was handed down.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ARSENIC POLLUTION IN YELLOWKNIFE—DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MINISTER AND HEALTH MINISTER PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDY GROUP

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. Prior to the appointment of a work committee from the Canadian Public Health Association by the Minister of Health to examine the arsenic problem in Yellowknife, did the Minister of the Environment discuss the arsenic problem with the Minister of Health?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring to the appointment of outside medical personnel, the answer is yes.

ARSENIC POLLUTION IN YELLOWKNIFE—REASON FOR FAILURE TO ESTABLISH INDEPENDENT STUDY GROUP

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): In view of the minister's answer, I would now ask why he did not implement the clauses that are clearly in place in the Environmental Contaminants Act which allow for and indeed urge the cooperation of the

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work of the two ministers together to establish an independent committee for such an examination. The provisions are there. Why was it not done?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we have cooperated. If I understand the hon. member's question, it is referring to the Clean Air Act.

Mr. Brisco: The Environmental Contaminants Act.

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): Maybe I did not understand the hon. member's question.

Mr. Brisco: I thought I made it clear that there are provisions within the Environmental Contaminants Act for the two ministries to work together, for the minister to appoint an independent committee, and that this work was not done in spite of the consultation that exists between the two ministers. Why?

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): Mr. Speaker, we have a special committee in place under the Canadian Medical Public Health Association.

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● (1440)

[Translation]

ANTI-INFLATION BOARD

DATE OF CABINET DECISION ON APPEAL FROM BOARD DECISION CONCERNING FLOUR MILL EMPLOYEES

Mr. Jacques Lavoie (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour.

In view of the milling trade strike now in progress in Montreal, the serious bread shortage as well as the increase in price of that product which affects especially low-income families, and the fact that for over a week now the federal cabinet has had before it the appeal of the union against the decision of the AIB to reduce the hourly rate which had been arrived at freely by the union and the companies concerned, can the minister tell the House when the cabinet will assume its responsibilities and reach a decision?

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): My parliamentary secretary is meeting the representatives of the CSN on that matter this afternoon. I met with them last Wednesday night in Montreal. We are going over the reasons upon which they are basing their representations to cabinet for reconsideration. I shall not be able to report for a day or two as to whether we perceive any solid basis for them. We are endeavouring to be helpful in the situation to see whether there are other avenues through which the matter can be resolved.