

*Inquiries of the Ministry*POSSIBLE STRIKE OF CANADIAN PACIFIC
AIRLINES MACHINISTS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, but first of all I should like to congratulate the minister on joining one of the two best departments in the government. My question is: In view of the fact that there is a distinct possibility of the machinists of Canadian Pacific Airlines also going on strike, has he been in touch with his colleague, the Minister of Labour, urging him to set up a conciliation board or a conciliator to avoid such a possible catastrophe?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): I do not think it should be my initiative to suggest what the Minister of Labour should do. He is perfectly capable of taking care of himself in these matters and I have no doubt he will do whatever is necessary.

Mr. Hees: He did not get on too well with the strike he is trying to handle now.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

FEDERAL ACTION TO REDUCE FATALITIES

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): I should like to offer the Minister of Transport my supplementary compliments on his appointment, and direct a question to him in his capacity as the minister reporting on road and vehicle safety. Considering the very heavy casualties and the warlike toll taken every week on our highways, would the minister consider making an early statement on what federal action will be taken to curtail or reduce this heavy toll of life on the highways?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes, at the appropriate time. As my hon. friend probably knows, studies are going on within a special branch of the Department of Transport, as well as consultations with the provinces. Draft legislation is being prepared, and when all of these elements have been brought together I will be pleased to consider whether the appropriate procedure will be to bring it before the house in a statement made in the house, or whether it might not be preferable to refer it to a committee.

INCOME TAX

APPLICATION TO OLD AGE PENSIONERS

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Finance based on the problem of the old age [Mr. Jamieson.]

pensioner who has been granted supplemental benefits on a means test and who finds himself having to pay income tax on his meagre pittance, as a result of which he loses his free hospitalization and half of his OMSIP premium—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member ask his question.

Mr. Rynard:—would the minister consider the abolition of this iniquitous tax imposed on people who are on welfare?

[Later:]

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I consider this a very urgent problem and I would like to discuss it at ten o'clock.

[Translation]

FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORTS
ACT

DELAY IN QUEBEC PARTICIPATION

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

I would like to know whether during the visit of the minister Mr. Loubier in the national capital, the representatives of both governments have concluded an agreement to promote amateur sport and recreational centres?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I understand, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Loubier had some discussions either with the minister or with the officials of his department today. I could not say if both ministers met, but I can add that some negotiations have been launched in this connection by the representatives of both governments.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MAINLAND CHINA—CANADIAN RECOGNITION
TO PROMOTE TRADE

Mr. Lorne Nysitrom (Yorkton-Melville): I have a question for the Prime Minister. In order to improve the possibility of grain sales to China, will the government of Canada now press toward immediate recognition of mainland China and establish diplomatic relations?

INDUSTRY

DEVCO—COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MINERS

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister and ask him