

*Oral Questions***TRANSPORT****REPORT ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO—AVAILABILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO MUNICIPALITIES**

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport, and I apologize to him if it was asked in my absence. In light of the minister's commitment that the CTC report on public transportation in southwestern Ontario will be discussed at the next Ontario tri-level conference, has the minister seen fit to make copies of the report available to the municipal councils of the area and provincial members of the legislature so that they will be in a position to make a coherent response to that report?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman knows, the first two volumes of that report were tabled in the House last week, so it is available. The third volume has not yet been tabled because I asked the CTC to do some more work on it. I expect this third volume shortly, perhaps in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the minister did not hear my question properly. My question was whether or not the minister had made the report available to municipal councils involved. In light of the fact that his office has refused to allow it to be distributed, or to supply sufficient copies for distribution to municipal councils in my area, is the minister willing to see that the supply is sufficient so that officials interested can get copies or that copies can be supplied to them?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, maybe I am wrong and I will have to check that, but I understood that once it is tabled in the House it becomes a public document and it would be normal to send the document—

An hon. Member: That hasn't been done.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): If it has not been done it is going to be done immediately.

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GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**ALLEGED CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN APPOINTMENT OF PAUL WHITE AS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT—GOVERNMENT POLICY**

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the question of the hon. member for Annapolis Valley, and I direct it to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It has to do with the guidelines in respect of conflict of interest tabled by the Prime Minister. Since his newly appointed special assistant, Mr. Paul White, was elected to and accepted a directorship in the Yukon Liberal Association last month, is it to be the policy of the government to permit executive and staff assistants to accept active participation at the official

[Mr. Trudeau.]

level in the office structure of the Liberal party across the country?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I do not know if there is a conflict of interest but I will check.

An hon. Member: You wouldn't know.

Mr. Chrétien: He is a well-known Liberal and he is proud of it, just like I am.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Explain.

Mr. Chrétien: If you are bothered about it I will ask him to resign as a director of the Liberal Association, but I will keep him on my staff because he is a good person from the Yukon and he is doing a damn good job.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yukon on a supplementary question and then the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and the Leader of the Opposition, after which I will call orders of the day.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I certainly do not quarrel with the appointment. That is the last thing I would want to do, and the minister knows that. What I am trying to do is establish government policy. If it is going to be government policy to permit executive and staff assistants to hold such official positions within the Liberal organization, will the government be extending that policy to include other civil servants or quasi civil servants?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I have not discussed that with Mr. Paul White, but I will do so. He was a director of the Liberal Association before we appointed him and he was re-elected. He is a well-known respected citizen of the Yukon. Anyway, he would be very willing to withdraw from the Liberal Association if necessary—

An hon. Member: I don't blame him.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: You can't blame him for that; more power to him.

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS**WINNIPEG POST OFFICE—CAUSE OF COLLAPSE OF LARGE BLOCK OF CEMENT**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the fact that about ten o'clock last night a section of the Winnipeg general post office, a concrete portion measuring about 30 feet by 60 feet, fell to the street—

An hon. Member: Was it the coat of arms?