

Oral Questions

This is an indication that we have improved the safety record in the skies over Canada during that period. This demonstrates very clearly that deregulation has not impaired the safety record of Canada, which is second to none.

Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the families of the 24 victims of the Dryden crash will be comforted by the minister's lack of commitment to safety in the airline industry.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Just a moment. The problem now is that that kind of preamble is going to create disorder. It is not an easy subject, and I think that in keeping with the decorum of this place questions do not have to impute the character or motives of the minister.

The hon. member has plenty of room to ask questions and I ask him to put his question appropriately.

Mr. Nault: Mr. Speaker, I can understand—

Mr. McCreath: Why don't you just tell him to get out of the gutter?

Mr. Speaker: The comment that the Chair just heard is not helpful either.

Mr. Nault: Mr. Speaker, if the member opposite had seen the air crash and been there as I was, he may think a little differently about his comments.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member, who obviously has a very intense and appropriate interest in this, would put his question.

Mr. Nault: Mr. Speaker, I do have a question for the minister.

Some 19 months after the Dryden crash, the Dryden airport lost its full-time fire-fighting service. A report issued three years before the crash stated that north-western Ontario was a dangerous flying zone and the accident rate in this area was higher than the national average.

I put this question to the minister. Will the minister assure this House today that Justice Moshansky's recommendations dealing with the Dryden municipal airport's

crash, fire-fighting and rescue services will be implemented immediately?

Hon. Jean Corbeil (Minister of Transport): As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, in August 1991 I established an implementation team consisting of over 20 persons from within Transport Canada, the employers, the associations and the labour unions, to prepare a program to implement the recommendations.

We have already acted on 49 per cent of these recommendations. The implementation team will be working on all the recommendations. I have taken the stand that I will be making public a report within six months of what exactly the implementation team has done from today until that time.

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MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance.

Yesterday the government had a chance to show leadership by getting people back to work in this country by launching a broad program to upgrade infrastructure across Canada. Instead the Minister of Finance spent his time insulting people.

Why did this government not act to achieve the 63,000 new jobs that a municipal infrastructure program would bring? Why will it not close tax loopholes and use that money to increase our infrastructure and put people back to work?

• (1450)

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the meeting that was held over the past two days among first ministers was a very productive meeting.

There were a number of topics covered including the issues of infrastructure, training, international trade, interprovincial trade, agriculture and fisheries. All sectors are experiencing difficulty.

I think that the communiqué or the decisions that were issued which form part of the communiqué clearly indicate that infrastructure is a priority, particularly highway infrastructure. I invite the hon. member to read the decision that was taken with respect to highway