

*Inquiries of the Ministry***TRANSPORT****ACTION TO PROVIDE RAILWAY CARS TO MOVE LUMBER AND AVOID LAY-OFFS**

**Mr. Robert Borrie (Prince George-Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question on an urgent matter for the Minister of Transport concerning the shortage of box and flat deck rail cars in the area served by the CNR from Prince George and in the Kamloops-Cariboo territory. Would the minister advise what immediate steps are being taken to provide for the transportation of lumber in these areas so that shift work will not be reduced, thereby causing temporary lay-offs of up to 50 per cent?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, all I can say other than that I will take the question as notice is that I know there have been additional problems this year because of the extremely severe weather conditions, but I will get more details and provide them to the hon. member as soon as possible.

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**MANPOWER****STUDY OF SITUATION IN WEST GERMANY BY FORMER LIBERAL PARTY OFFICIAL—DATE REPORT EXPECTED—REQUEST FOR TABLING**

**Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Last week the House was told that J. P. Lefebvre had been hired for a 15-week period at a total salary of \$9,000 plus expenses and secretarial costs to study manpower policies and institutions in West Germany. Can the minister now say when Mr. Lefebvre's report is expected under the terms of his contract with the department and whether it will be made public?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that a question of this kind normally should be placed on the order paper, but if the minister wishes to reply briefly he will be allowed to do so.

**Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, we expect the report to be made available to the department within the terms of the contract. I will report later on whether it will be made public. It is an internal document, as I understand it, for the department.

**Mr. Paproski:** In light of the fact that sources in the minister's own department have said that the same information Mr. Lefebvre is seeking is already available through ongoing surveys by the OECD, will the minister tell the House now, or by way of a statement on motions, what additional information he expects to receive from this very costly contract to a former Liberal party member?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Cardigan.

[Mr. O'Connell.]

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION OFFICE IN CHARLOTTETOWN**

**Mr. Melvin McQuaid (Cardigan):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Has the government any immediate plans to move the Unemployment Insurance Commission office back from Moncton to Charlottetown so that claims in Prince Edward Island can be dealt with more efficiently and promptly?

**Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** I will take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

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**CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION****ACTION BY MINISTER TO RESOLVE DISPUTE WITH NABET—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT**

**Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. On Friday last the minister said that the situation in respect of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and NABET was fluid and that he hoped it would stabilize around the bargaining table. From recent newspaper reports it would appear that there is now a solid state of stagnation in the bargaining procedure. Can the minister, as the minister responsible, tell us what initiatives he intends to take to clear up and resolve this unfortunate labour dispute?

[Translation]

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has been misinformed. Conciliation is continuing. The conciliators have asked for five more days to meet the parties separately, after which they would hope to meet them together.

[English]

**Mr. Nowlan:** Is the minister saying then that the two sides are presently negotiating? He has been asked since last Friday to make a statement on motions on this important labour dispute involving the most costly Crown corporation to Canadian taxpayers, which may set an example for the public service and all types of labour—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Nowlan:** I was coming to the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member should ask the question. He will appreciate he was perhaps going beyond the limits of an ordinary question. Would the hon. member kindly ask his question.

**Mr. Nowlan:** I may be going a little beyond the ordinary, confined, restrictive rules of the House, but when we see a public corporation involving taxpayers' money and the government sitting on its fat seat—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Would the hon. member kindly ask the question. We do have to try to make headway.