

### LABOUR RELATIONS

#### DISPUTE WITH NON-OPERATING RAILWAY EMPLOYEES— SUGGESTED CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR NEWFOUNDLAND IN EVENT OF STRIKE

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to a previous question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the unique position of Newfoundland in respect of water transportation needs, is it possible that the minister would make a recommendation to the CN and the unions to co-operatively arrange some sort of interim or contingency plan which would provide essential transportation services for that province in the event of a strike?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, that sounds like a reasonable suggestion, but I think it more appropriately falls within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Transport. To the degree that labour is involved I would be pleased to discuss it with him.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the minister for his answer, and ask the Minister of Transport whether he would consider taking this matter under advisement, in view of the fact that tourism and all the essential industrial needs, including food supplies, of the island are dependent on water transportation? Could he arrange, not with any heavy-handed involvement, but with co-operation between the unions and the CN, to have essential services provided in the event of a strike?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, not speaking for the unions, as I have no mandate from them, if there is anything I could say—

**An hon. Member:** Did you lose your card?

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** If there is anything to be done in this regard I am quite sure the unions will take care of it. It is very difficult to pinpoint one part of the country because there are other regions that might face very difficult situations. We will have to wait until we see what the situation is, at which time I will make a decision.

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### AIR CANADA

#### POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLL-FREE LINES FOR RESERVATIONS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

**Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Transport and is on a more positive note than perhaps the last couple of questions regarding the problems of the railways. I have given the minister notice of this question and I hope he will be as co-operative as he usually is, and not as pugnacious and negative as the Minister of Labour just was. Is the minister now in a position to announce to the House improved transportation services, especially in the Atlantic area where all the communities in the four provinces will be on Zenith toll-free lines directly to Air Canada reservation desks, and also codephones, so we will know when planes are coming and going?

26446—74½

### Oral Questions

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Yes, I think this will be achieved very shortly, mainly for the towns of Kemptville, Truro, New Glasgow, Wolfville, Bridgewater, Windsor and Antigonish.

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[Translation]

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### CABLEVISION—INQUIRY RESPECTING CONFLICT BETWEEN OTTAWA AND QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Communications.

Last Friday his Quebec counterpart made known that the parliamentary commission on communications would meet on Thursday, August 9, to study the proposed cablevision regulations. Since after that meeting the Quebec National Assembly would have jurisdiction over cablevision at the beginning of September, is the minister prepared to meet with his Quebec counterpart before August 9 to discuss that question or will he, as he mentioned before, let the courts solve that problem?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, I had with my Quebec counterpart the meetings which seemed possible until now and up to August 9. As to the conclusion that can be drawn from the meeting of the Quebec parliamentary commission on communications, I differ in opinion with the member for Joliette. That will confer no new jurisdiction to Quebec besides that which it holds already by virtue of the constitution.

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● (1520)

[English]

### LABOUR RELATIONS

#### DISPUTE WITH NON-OPERATING RAILWAY EMPLOYEES— EFFECT OF POSSIBLE STRIKE ON NEWFOUNDLAND— DISCUSSION BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND PREMIER OF PROVINCE

**Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is really supplementary to that of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the difficulty which could be experienced by the isolated province of Newfoundland as a result of the impending strike, is the Prime Minister today meeting with the premier of Newfoundland and, if so, will he discuss this very serious problem with him to see whether anything can be worked out to relieve the situation?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am meeting with the premier of Newfoundland and we will discuss a whole series of matters.