

Inquiries of the Ministry

Commerce. Has an agreement been made between the minister, the transport unions and Montreal Transportation Commission to ensure transportation to the exhibition site during Expo?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, we have been trying to work out the best transportation arrangements. Unfortunately it has not been possible to resolve this unhappy strike, which is depriving a great many people of the opportunity to see one of Canada's great centennial developments. I met with representatives of all three levels of government in Montreal last Friday to explore the situation, but unfortunately it has not been susceptible to solution so far.

AIRPORTS**TORONTO—POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTE FOR AVIATION FUELING SERVICE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the serious implications for air transportation arising out of the strike at Consolidated Aviation Fueling Limited in Toronto, can the minister make a statement on the matter, and in particular tell of any plans the government may have for alternative service in order to prevent the possibility of a shutdown at Malton?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to give a detailed report at the moment, but I am hopeful we can manage to maintain the service so it will not be necessary to close the airport facilities.

Mr. Fulton: As a supplementary question, has the minister plans in hand for that eventuality?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I have been working on the matter for some time this afternoon, but I do not think it would be particularly useful to disclose what the possibilities might be in the event that there was a shutdown.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**STEPS TO MEET INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George Hees (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Is the government giving consideration to issuing of economic guide

[Mr. Régimbal.]

lines to those whose activities have the greatest effect on the cost of living, as one means of trying to stem the rapid increase in the cost of living which has taken place during the past three months?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Finance indicated in his statement yesterday it is essential both for industry and labour groups to consider after consultation with, and I would hope co-operation from, governments how best we can achieve by voluntary action a reduction in the rate at which prices and costs are increasing.

As my hon. friend no doubt knows, this matter has been the subject of an extensive review by the Economic Council of Canada in its third annual report. The council found serious difficulties in the way of guide lines in the form of an "incomes policy", to use the phrase given in the council's report. Nevertheless the whole question of how to achieve the necessary restraints on prices and costs is a matter which is under continuing and active consideration.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. What category of the minister's priorities or guide lines requires the presence next week in Edmonton of four senior ministers, two parliamentary secretaries and a member of parliament to open the Camsell hospital, and are we to take this as an example—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest to the hon. member that the question is argumentative.

[Later:]

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Was the Minister of Finance expressing government policy yesterday in stating in this house, as recorded at page 2809 of *Hansard*, in the left hand column, about two thirds of the way down:

I feel that we must—and we will—find some way to bring this inflationary movement under control even, if necessary, by letting the economy develop a little more slack for a year or two while price and cost increases taper off.

Mr. Knowles: Explain.

Mr. Pearson: Yes, Mr. Speaker; the minister was suggesting, and very wisely, that all governments, including the federal government, should reduce their demands on the capital market and on available resources. I am sure my hon. friend would approve of that.