

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR ISSUE OF
COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): My question is to the Minister of Finance, and I know Your Honour will immediately recognize my reason for seeking co-operation. Could the hon. minister advise the house in general, and in particular the members from British Columbia, when a decision, favourable we hope, can be expected on the issuance of a commemorative coin to mark the 100th anniversary of the addition of British Columbia to our great Confederation?

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure whether this is a question which can be asked verbally. It seems the type of question that normally should be put on the order paper.

Mr. Winch: I ask the question because of the time involved. The Numismatic Society advises me an early decision is required, if it is going into effect.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest an early decision could be made in writing.

[Translation]

EDUCATION

RECOMMENDATIONS RESPECTING REPORT
OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Gaetan-J. Serré (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Secretary of State.

Could he tell the house if he has examined the recommendations of the Franco-Ontarian Committee on cultural life which were presented to the Ontario Minister of Education last Monday?

If so, does he intend to answer favourably their request that the C.B.C. establish French radio (AM and FM) and television stations wherever there is a sufficient number of French-speaking people in Ontario?

Mr. Speaker, such a service is necessary, not only for the French-speaking people of Ontario but also for the increasing number of English-speaking people who wish to get a better knowledge of the French culture.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

29180—310

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

EFFECT OF INCREASED RATES ON TRADE
PAPERS PUBLICATION

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Postmaster General. Having in mind the publication today of the *Survey* which states that a large number of trade union papers are discontinuing publication, due to the very heavy postal rate increase, could consideration be given to a review of the situation in which those non-profit papers find themselves?

Mr. Speaker: The first part of the question may be placed on the order paper. However if there is immediate urgency the matter might be discussed at the time of adjournment.

Mr. Mather: Ten o'clock.

AIR TRANSPORT

MERGER BETWEEN AIR CANADA AND
CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Is the government planning a merger between Air Canada and Canadian Pacific Airlines? I ask this question, Mr. Speaker, in view of the recent suggestions by Air Canada advocating such a proposal.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the government is studying the whole question related to air policy, and the future corporate structure of Air Canada, in a general sense. I think I indicated some weeks or months ago in answer to a question that this suggestion which has been made is not a matter of urgent study. It is not the subject of a specific task force or anything of that nature. Nevertheless I think one has to look in a methodical way at the future of Air Canada and its corporate structure, financing and all related aspects, and then in due course perhaps to make some conclusions or recommendations which could be considered by the government. The chairman of Air Canada was stating a personal view I understand; he was not flying a kite for the government. This is one point of view. If the President of Canadian Pacific Airlines had been speaking he might have put forth a different view.

Mr. Nesbitt: A supplementary question. Can the minister tell us if any directors of