Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Nowlan: My question is very simple and succinct.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I would not want the simplicity to be lost in the barrage of thought and/or noise from the other side, Mr. Speaker. If the Minister of Transport thinks that I am going to be—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether the hon. member would make it easier for all of us by asking the question.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Transport would have made it easier for me if he had responded to the last question without his extension, but because the minister—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. As hon. members know, there are only so many minutes during the question period. If we spend all our time on the same matter and the same question, perhaps other hon. members will be deprived of an opportunity to participate. I will allow the hon. member's supplementary, but I hope he will ask it as soon as possible.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, in view of your admonition concerning a time limit on the question period, and in view of the fact that the minister's reply was not responsive to the question, I would not want to impose upon hon. members of this House by attempting to respond to the minister within the time limit. Therefore, I withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the hon, member for his co-operation. I would hesitate very much to grant a further supplementary on the same subject at this time. The hon, member for Winnipeg North Centre.

Mr. Nowlan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—I am not going to sit down, Mr. Parry Sound-Muskoka.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I am not going to sit down, Mr. Speaker, until you tell me to sit down. The reason I did not ask a question was I thought I could help the business of the House in respect of other questions, but I have another thing to say—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I fully realized the position taken by the hon. member. I just thought that, in co-operation with the Chair, [Mr. Speaker.]

perhaps we should move on to another subject. I would appreciate that very much and am still asking for co-operation to give the House an opportunity to go on to another subject.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, you have my full co-operation. Since I cannot get my question in in an informal way I will ask it directly. First of all, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the Arrow, now sunk in Chedabucto Bay, still contains many millions of gallons of oil that will pollute the shores, I would hope the Minister of Transport would no longer pollute the atmosphere of this chamber with his corn when the shores of Nova Scotia are getting the oil.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

PENSIONS

RETIRED CNR EMPLOYEES—COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF INCREASE

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether the hon. member might be given an opportunity to ask his question.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In view of the assurance the minister gave on January 14 that he would use his good offices to speed up the committee consideration of the question of increasing the pensions of retired CNR employees, can he now tell me whether he has done so and with what result?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes I have, Mr. Speaker. I have consulted with the chairman of the Committee on Transport and Communications. It is my understanding he has consulted with the representatives of the various parties. We can be ready whenever the chairman and the committee, which is the master of its own affairs, decide to go on to this item.

AIR TRANSPORT

BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON HIJACKING AND DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the favourite minister this afternoon, the Minister of Transport. Could he tell us whether it is the intention of the government of Canada to