

*Oral Questions*

hope my cabinet colleagues and members of the parties opposite will join with the government when we bring that program forward, because I think it is urgent.

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● (1450) ..

**THE CONSTITUTION****EFFECT OF CHARTER OF RIGHTS ON ABORTION PROVISIONS IN CRIMINAL CODE**

**Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Hamilton West):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development. It is my understanding that the government interprets the charter of rights in the proposed constitutional resolution as it pertains to the question of abortion as being neutral.

What assurance can the minister give that Section 7 of the charter of rights will not be construed so as to make abortion, in the early phase of pregnancy, essentially a matter of privacy and thus protected from the sanction of the Criminal Code?

The Supreme Court of the United States, in dealing with a constitutional provision guaranteeing individual liberty, inferred that the concept of liberty included the concept of privacy and that the concept of privacy makes abortion, in the early phase of pregnancy, essentially a private matter, not a matter upon which the state should enact a penal sanction.

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development):** Madam Speaker, the question has been debated at length in the committee. I have stated the position of the government in this matter, that the question of abortion is dealt with in the Criminal Code and in no way can the charter be used to interfere with the actions of this Parliament in relation to the Criminal Code and abortion.

**Mr. Hawkes:** Wrong!

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**GRAIN****CONGESTION AT PORT OF VANCOUVER—GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE**

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. It arises out of the congestion in grain terminals in the port of Vancouver, resulting in the lowest level of space in the terminals in several years, some 49,000 tonnes. There is a scarcity of ocean vessels arriving at the port of Vancouver. Over the last two shipping weeks only four shipping berths were utilized during that time. Also there is a record number of cars en route and in terminal position, and the unloads are declining. In view of these facts, could the Minister of Transport tell the House why this lack of co-ordination is occurring and what he is prepared to do about it?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, the hon. member gave a very adequate description of the complexity of the rapeseed situation.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Not rapeseed, grain.

**Mr. Pepin:** Grain in general, but particularly applicable to the rapeseed situation.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** No.

**Mr. Pepin:** If it is the entire grain situation, I am sorry to say that my hon. friend is wrong. The delivery at Winnipeg—the delivery at Vancouver has been extremely good in recent weeks.

**Miss MacDonald:** Or somewhere!

**Mr. Pepin:** I have the figures here which I can share with the hon. member. The rapeseed situation has been a difficult one. In that particular instance the acting grain co-ordinator met with the industry. There were problems with respect to inland elevators and producer cars. They have agreed now on the sharing, the percentage in each instance, and it is my information that the situation will continue improving.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Madam Speaker, my information is more up to date than that of the Minister of Transport. I should like to quote the latest Alberta agricultural statement on west coast traffic. They described the situation as “becoming critical”. The fact of the matter is that ships have not been arriving on time. There are over 9,000 cars loaded with grain, waiting to be unloaded. There is only room for 49,000 tonnes.

What is the minister doing to ensure better co-ordination for the arrival of grain to terminal position and the arrival of ships? Is he not aware of it? If not, will he look into it immediately?

**Mr. Pepin:** I also have the kind of information my hon. friend used to have.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** You had better read it.

**Mr. Pepin:** Indeed the situation is difficult in the port of Vancouver, but my information is that, generally speaking, the situation has been quite good up until now, with an increase of 4 per cent to 5 per cent in unloading at the port of Vancouver. The present situation is a temporary one which will be rectified.

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**HEALTH AND SAFETY****MEASURES TO ELIMINATE HAZARD OF INFANT CRIB DEATHS**

**Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. It concerns infant crib deaths as a result of high colonial-style corner posts. Since individual manufacturers recognize the hazard involving the cornerposts on very