

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the concern of many veterans organizations over the fact that their appearance before the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs is being delayed, will the government reconsider its position and refer the Woods report to the standing committee even before the white paper is produced?

**Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Here again, Mr. Speaker, I did answer that question very recently when I said it would be much preferable for veterans associations to appear before the committee, once they have had the white paper in hand.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** They don't think so.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****DELAY IN ISSUING PASSPORTS**

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he will lend his very able administrative talents to the passport office for a day or so to do what he can to take additional steps to clean up the indescribable mess in that office?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure hon. members that these inconveniences have been caused by the enormous workload that has been put on the passport office. In the next day or two I intend to give a description of the enormous volume of passports that have been issued. We have witnessed far and away the best work done by the passport office in its history. This problem arises because of the enormous increase in the volume of travel, which I am very happy to see, but which is something we could not have anticipated.

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, what arrangements is the Secretary of State for External Affairs making to see, first of all, that passport forms are simplified, and secondly to ensure that an adequate supply of the new forms is provided in those parts of the country which are still using the old forms, thus adding to the confusion of this overworked and harassed branch?

**Mr. Sharp:** These forms are now in the course of being printed.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** Mr. Speaker, since the departure of the hon. member for Trinity as Acting Prime Minister,

[Mr. Aiken.]

and in view of the mess the Secretary of State for External Affairs has made in respect of passports, can we assume that he will not be getting—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT****REQUEST FOR RESTORATION OF SATURDAY DELIVERY**

**Mr. George Muir (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Postmaster General would consider re-instating Saturday mail delivery in order to bring the Post Office Department back into the 20th century?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have the impression that this question also has been recently asked.

**GRAIN****REQUEST FOR SYSTEM OF GUARANTEED PRICES**

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the acting government house leader, or the acting house leader of the government.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** You were right the first time.

**Mr. Benjamin:** Will he say whether he can advise the house that the Minister of Agriculture on behalf of the government will be bringing forward any proposal regarding the two price system or a guaranteed price system in respect of western grains?

**Mr. Speaker:** This question was asked toward the end of last week of the Minister of Agriculture. I believe he was the proper minister to direct the question to at that time.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS****CRIMINAL CODE****REPORT STAGE**

The house resumed, from Friday, May 9, consideration of Bill C-150, to amend the Criminal Code, the Parole Act, the Penitentiary Act, the Prisons and Reformatories Act and to make certain consequential amendments to the Combines Investigation Act, the Customs Tariff and the National Defence Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, and motion No. 44, Mr. Winch.