

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the fact that Bill C-181 has been passed, could the Prime Minister tell us who, in due course, will pay the cost of the services of the Canadian armed forces in Quebec?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe I have already answered that question four or five times.

When an agreement has been reached between the province of Quebec and the federal government, I shall be pleased to give further details.

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[English]

GRAIN**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF WHEAT BOARD FOR 1968-69
CROP YEAR—POOL ACCOUNTS DEFICITS**

Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. Can the minister inform the House when the supplementary report of the Canadian Wheat Board for the crop year 1968-69 will be available?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this report is in the hands of the printers and should be available perhaps in a couple of weeks for tabling. May I add that contrary to the indication given in the committee yesterday the order in council in connection with the wheat pool was passed on September 23.

Mr. Douglas (Assiniboia): Can the minister inform the House of the deficits in each of the pool accounts for wheat, oats and barley for the same year, 1968-69, which the federal treasury has been obliged to underwrite in recent months?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I would think that that question is of a statistical nature. My limited understanding of these complicated matters would lead me to believe that this is the kind of question that should be asked in writing on the order paper.

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HOUSING**PREVENTION OF INCREASES IN RENTS PAID BY SENIOR
CITIZENS AND PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES**

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister responsible for housing. In order to give further recognition of and sympathy toward the housing problems faced by our senior citizens and people on low incomes, and in light of recent proposals contained in the government white paper on income security for Canadians announced by his colleague, can the minister assure the House that the government will take steps to prevent immediate increases in rent for senior citizens or families living in public housing developments where rents are geared to income?

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, to the degree possible we will do so. In fact, the rent to income scale which I suggested in the public housing guidelines last year is pertinent and those guidelines are generally moving toward implementation by the provinces; but the fact of the matter is that that kind of decision is primarily one for provincial exercise.

Mr. Alexander: Would the minister pass on the information I have given him this afternoon in order that we may have some consensus in regard to the plight of our senior citizens and those on lower incomes?

**CHANGE IN INTEREST RATE ON LOANS TO SOCIETIES FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS' ACCOMMODATION**

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister in charge of housing whether the government is giving any consideration to changing the interest rate on loans to societies to be used for financing senior citizens' housing, which loans at the present time are paid back over a 50-year period at approximately two and a half times the principal?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the interest rate on directed social housing programs has an immediate relationship to the cost of borrowing to the government, a matter constantly subject to examination, always with the desire of bringing the rate down.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION**ARGENTIA, NFLD.—REPORT ON EFFECTS OF CLOSING
OF UNITED STATES NAVAL STATION**

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Can the minister tell the House whether he has yet received a report from the task force appointed by him some time ago to investigate the economic plight of people living in the Argentia area of Newfoundland caused by the closing down of the United States naval station in that region?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I will inquire if I have received a report lately.

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[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION NOTICE TO
SURPLUS WORKERS**

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of National Defence; I gave notice of the question last week. On May 15, 1970, as reported at page 7011 of *Hansard*, in an exchange between the minister and myself the minister indicated that any employees whose employment would be ter-