

*Inquiries of the Ministry*FARM LOANS—POSTPONEMENT OF PAYMENTS  
BY FARMERS IN DIFFICULTY

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (St. Hyacinthe-Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Is it true that terms are granted to farmers who, as a result of some financial difficulties, are unable to meet their obligations toward the Farm Credit Corporation?

[*Text*]

**Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I did not hear the first part of the hon. gentleman's question.

**Mr. Ricard:** I asked the minister if it were true that some delays were allowed to farmers who, because of financial difficulties, could not meet their obligations to the Farm Credit Corporation?

**Mr. Hays:** For some time now anyone who had great problems, or to whom disasters happened, could make representations to the Farm Credit Corporation which has given them a holiday on their payments. This is still going on.

**Mr. Ricard:** As a supplementary question, is it also true that in order to obtain such holidays as the minister mentions it is obligatory to have a letter of introduction from the Minister of Forestry (Mr. Sauvé)?

**Mr. Hays:** No, that is not so. That is not correct. This is something that is done all over Canada.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

CALGARY—TRANSFER OF HOSPITAL FROM  
FEDERAL CONTROL

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North):** My question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs who was here two or three minutes ago but seems to have disappeared. Perhaps his parliamentary secretary or the acting minister could answer it.

Since the government of Alberta has now indicated it is no longer interested in taking over the Colonel Belcher hospital in Calgary, has the department given up the idea of turning this hospital over to civilian control? What are the present plans for it?

**Hon. Lucien Cardin (Associate Minister of National Defence):** I shall be happy to [Mr. Hays.]

take the question as notice and refer it to the Minister of Veterans Affairs.

## RESEARCH

PARTICIPATION IN HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH  
PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Témiscamingue):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Defence Production. Has the government any present plans to participate in the high altitude research program, which was evolved by a Canadian, Dr. Ball, and in which the United States is now participating?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry):** The Canadian government is now participating in this high altitude research program being largely carried out in the Bahama islands.

**Mr. Martineau:** Has agreement been reached on this subject with the United States?

**Mr. Drury:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

**Mr. Martineau:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Defence Production, which arises from his further answer. He stated Canada was participating in the high altitude research program. Is the further participation by Canada in that program dependant upon the request that is presently before treasury board, and is it a fact that no further funding for this project may be expected until agreement between Canada and the United States is reached on proposals presently before the two countries?

**Mr. Drury:** Mr. Speaker, this is a continuing program and what is now under discussion are projections of the future of this program. Projects over present limits are under consideration by the government in Ottawa, in consultation with the other participant in the program, the United States.

## PENSIONS

CANADA PLAN—INQUIRY AS TO TABLING OF  
WHITE PAPER

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. H. A. Thomas (Middlesex West):** My question is for the Minister of National