

Inquiries of the Ministry

ship and Immigration which is related somewhat to the questions asked of him earlier. I wonder if his attention has been called to a decision of the United Church of Canada yesterday to request a basic review of Canada's immigration policy. If so, will he say whether he will consider acceding to that request?

[Translation]

Mr. Tremblay: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that suggestion. I will study it and will then be in a position to give my views to the hon. member.

[Text]

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

CONTINUATION OF PRESENT PROVISIONS
RESPECTING SHARED PROGRAMS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question about the letter to the provinces he tabled yesterday with regard to opting out of federal-provincial programs. I am not so much concerned about the smaller programs, but I am concerned about major programs such as hospital insurance, old age assistance, blind persons allowances and disabled persons allowances. I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question with regard to these words in his letter to the prime minister of Quebec, as found on page 7875 of *Hansard*:

...and on the understanding that all the other conditions of the programs would be maintained during the interim period.

Does this mean the house can be assured that the reciprocity provision will be continued and that uniformity with respect to eligibility will be continued in all these programs?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that is my understanding, but this is a very important matter and I should like to look into it and confirm that understanding Monday.

Mr. Douglas: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will there definitely be legislation to deal with this matter this fall; and can the Prime Minister also tell the house later, if not now, what is the total amount of money involved in these transfers and in this opting out provision?

Mr. Pearson: With respect to the first question, we hope there will be legislation dealing with this matter this autumn. In reply to the second part of the question, I

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do not have the figure here but I will be glad to get it.

GRAIN

MOOSE JAW, SASK.—OPERATION OF GRAIN
DRYING FACILITIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. E. Pascoe (Moose Jaw-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture, who has jurisdiction over the board of grain commissioners. Wheat board quotations indicate a big price spread between dry and tough and damp grain. There will be a large amount of tough and damp grain in the west because of rain and snow on the prairies, also resulting from the new limitations on grain moisture content.

There is a large government elevator at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, with modern equipment for drying grain. Will the minister take steps to arrange for the operation of the elevator's grain drying facilities at full capacity so the tough and damp grain can be put into condition for marketing or storing?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): I will be pleased to bring the hon. member's request to the attention of the board of grain commissioners.

INQUIRY AS TO DELIVERY QUOTAS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lawrence Watson (Assiniboia): I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Can the hon. gentleman tell the house the reason for the delay in having all delivery points in western Canada placed on an initial 1 bushel quota, and can he inform us when the Canadian wheat board expects to have all points in western Canada on a 1 bushel quota or better?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): The wheat board is already moving ahead rapidly in the opening up of quotas. I am not in a position to say when a 1 bushel quota will be established everywhere, but I have been in touch with the board—indeed, a member of the board is here today—and I will be discussing the suggestion made by the hon. member.

Mr. Watson (Assiniboia): Will the minister inform the house, after he has talked with officials of the board, when it is expected that a 1 bushel quota will be established?

Mr. Sharp: I will try to make a statement as soon as possible after I have some information to provide to the house.