

Inquiries of the Ministry

at the congress. Indeed, a paper on the dairy industry prepared by the task force has now been circulated. However, I cannot give an undertaking that the specific requirements for the 1969-70 dairy year will be ready by Monday. We hope it will be available before the year begins on April 1. I ought to point out that consideration of these kinds of policies by the agricultural congress are not considerations of day to day operations. Instead, they seek to set down guidelines for the future.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF STUDY ON NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES**

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister who will be responsible for regional economic development. Has he received a request from the Minister of Agriculture of Nova Scotia to make public the study on the nine eastern counties of Nova Scotia. If so, what decision has he reached on the matter?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, I have received such a letter.

Mr. MacEwan: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. What decision has the minister come to on the question of making the study public?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I received the letter yesterday and I indicated that we do not think in my department that we should publish those reports. We shall ask for the opinion of the Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture on this point. If his opinion is in the affirmative, we shall come to a final decision then.

AIR CANADA**UPGRADING OF MEAL SERVICE**

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Will he investigate the activities of Air Canada with a view to upgrading meals served on flights?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, as I have been waiting since the very beginning to put my question, I forgot it through impatience.

[Mr. Olson.]

CABINET OF THE PRIME MINISTER**REFERENCE TO STATEMENT BY ASSISTANT**

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he tell us whether he agrees with one of his first lieutenants, Mr. Pierre Levasseur, who is responsible for establishing the regional desks?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The question as put is out of order. The hon. member is aware that he cannot ask whether a minister agrees with a statement, an expression or an opinion coming from an official.

Mr. Rondeau: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I submit that a certain statement made by one of the Prime Minister's first lieutenants was an insult to hon. members of this house. In fact, he stated that 90 per cent of the hon. members' work in the house could be done by business machines. So, I would like to know if the Prime Minister approves that statement.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question could perhaps be a point of privilege, but I do not think his question is in order at this time.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): On this same question—

Mr. Speaker: Is the Prime Minister rising on a point of privilege?

Mr. Trudeau: Somebody raised a point of order, Mr. Speaker. If Your Honour will not permit the discussion to continue, I accept your judgment, but I want to rectify—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggested to the hon. member for Shefford that the question as asked is out of order.

[English]

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD**CARRYING OUT OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister-to-be of regional and economic development, the present Minister of Forestry and Rural Development. Will he carry out the final recommendations of the Atlantic Development Board to the effect that existing programs, including highway programs, ought not to be allowed to grind to a halt this year while the new department is getting under way in its work?