Inquiries of the Ministry NATIONAL DEFENCE

CONSIDERATION OF DELAY IN IMPLEMEN-TATION OF INTEGRATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. Can the minister say whether today's news reports are accurate to the effect that the government is giving consideration to delaying the implementation of the integration of the armed services until there has been a further review of this question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows that it is not in order to ask whether press communications or views are correct or incorrect.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker, there will be no delay.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question is out of order and cannot be answered.

IMMIGRATION

SEDGWICK REPORTS—REQUEST FOR REFER-ENCE TO JOINT COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. A. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Since the government proposes to refer the white paper on immigration to a special joint committee for study, would the government also consider referring at the same time the two reports on immigration recently made to the government by Mr. Joseph Sedgwick, Q.C., for study?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I will take this point under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

AGRICULTURE

MILK—REQUEST FOR SPEEDIER SUBSIDY PAYMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Might I say that it was a pleasure to have the minister visit our county last week.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. McKinley: My question is this. Many into committee where the necessary an dairy farmers are wondering whether any ments can be made, to ensure that it with progress is being made to speed up subsidy brought into effect as quickly as possible.

[Mr. Pearson.]

payments to them and what kind of guide they might be given as to when they might anticipate receiving their cheques?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I know the hon. member will be pleased to hear that approximately 290,000 cheques have now gone out, totalling nearly \$27 million. These cheques have gone out directly to the farmers. In regard to those areas where there has been a slow reporting by the factories, the stabilization board is sending its officers to the areas to deal directly with the factories to try to get the returns in as soon as possible in order that they may speed up the procedure in the very small percentage of areas where returns have not yet been made.

Mr. McKinley: Mr. Speaker, could the minister give us some kind of guide that the farmers could go on as to when they might receive their cheques?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think the second question is in order.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

MEDICARE—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERA-TION OF GOVERNMENT POSITION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. It is a question that I thought one of my Conservative colleagues from Manitoba might ask, but as a Manitoba member perhaps I could put it to the Prime Minister. In view of Premier Roblin's declaration that the government of Manitoba is ready and anxious to proceed with medicare on July 1, 1967, will the government review its position in this matter?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that this question is very similar to one that was asked earlier today. It is argumentative, and refers to a debate on a bill which is before the house at the present time.

Mr. Knowles: Then may I ask the Prime Minister whether he will take part in the debate and answer the question then?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the best way to proceed with medicare at the moment is to get second reading of the bill and go into committee where the necessary amendments can be made, to ensure that it will be brought into effect as quickly as possible.