

about making my hon. friend understand the situation as it stands. I never took the position that Canada should not produce any such vaccine. That is a ridiculous statement.

[English]

SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES OTHER THAN  
VACCINATION TO CONTROL SWINE FLU

**Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the same meeting declared that vaccination alone would not prevent the spread of this disease, and that other measures must be considered, would the minister indicate whether Canada has prepared any contingency plan for adopting existing health services in the potentially exceptional situation?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, we have a priority at the moment, and it is to make sure that enough vaccines are available to meet the needs of all Canadians in the months ahead. If other steps are required, they will be announced in due time.

\* \* \*

[English]

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF STUDY ON MOVEMENTS OF LIVE  
CATTLE AND BEEF—PROPOSAL TO EQUALIZE FREIGHT RATES  
ON LIVE CATTLE AND BEEF

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. The latest annual report of the Canadian Transportation Commission states that the CTC carried out a study at the request of the Ministry of Transport task force, namely, and I quote: "the regional development implications of the freight rate structure for movements of live cattle as against movements of beef". I should like to ask the minister if he is prepared now to table this study so that we may all see what is in that particular CTC study, and if he could outline very briefly to the House some of the general recommendations that came out of the study.

● (1450)

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** I will certainly look favourably upon the first request, and I think that at that point it would be better if the member took a look at the study rather than if I outlined it.

**Mr. Murta:** It was over a year ago, on January 28, 1975, that the minister said in the House of Commons that the freight rate equalization program would have the effect of reducing freight rates for dressed beef vis-à-vis live beef and that the government will in due course be putting forward the specific proposals they have for bringing about equity with regard to these matters. In view of the fact that there appears to be a study now tabled by the CTC, can the minister inform the House when he envisages introducing specific proposals to end this anomaly?

**Mr. Lang:** A number of measures are required, and one in particular would be required which calls for legislation.

Oral Questions

As was indicated in the House before, it is our hope to put that legislation before the House in the near future.

\* \* \*

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR TARIFF PROTECTION FOR LOCAL  
PRODUCTION—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Each year, just when the local crops are ready for the market, the same kind of products manage to come across the border at prices below the cost of local production. These local farmers are almost facing extinction. Would the minister not concentrate on this problem long enough to work with the Department of Finance to raise the tariffs during the harvest season long enough to protect the local farmers?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, these tariffs are generally agreed upon with the Canadian Horticultural Council which has always been the adviser to the government on the situation, in addition to what the members of parliament tell us. We have acted in the past when it was feasible to put on tariffs when the product is in production in Canada.

**Mr. Friesen:** I recognize the fact that the minister negotiates with the Canadian Horticultural Council but that has to do with levels, not the timing.

\* \* \*

FINANCE

ALLEGED IMPORTATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM  
UNITED STATES AT BELOW COST OF PRODUCTION—  
GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock):** I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. He has received a letter from Royal City Foods Ltd., dated March 10, in which they say that products are coming in from the United States at prices reported to be lower than actual cost in the United States. They say that if protective action is not taken against distress selling of foreign products into our domestic markets, our industry will not survive. Has the minister taken any action on this matter?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, action is provided for under the law. However, I will make a further investigation of the current status of the investigation.

\* \* \*

LABOUR CONDITIONS

ALLEGATION AIR CANADA CONTRACTING OUT WORK OF  
FINANCE BRANCH EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—GOVERNMENT  
ACTION

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister