

Questions

general conditions in financial markets at home and abroad. The Government of Canada, and governments in many countries, are taking vigorous action to reduce the inflationary pressures which are among the chief reasons for current high levels of interest rates in financial markets. Meanwhile the banks know well enough that Parliament and the government are concerned about the high level of interest rates and will want to be satisfied that competition is effective in ensuring that borrowers are charged no higher rates than are needed in order to pay depositors an appropriate return on their savings.

SEAL KILLING PISTOL

Question No. 1,149—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. Has the Minister of Fisheries received any information from Mr. T. I. Hughes, General Manager of the Ontario Humane Society, concerning a humane seal killing shot pistol?
2. Did the Department of Fisheries test such a gun during the 1968 seal hunting season?
3. If so, what decision has been made requiring the use of such a gun or a similar weapon in the seal hunt for the 1969 season?

Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries): 1. Yes.

2. Yes.

3. Regulations will not require the use of such a gun or similar weapon during the seal hunt in 1969; further testing is felt necessary.

*WHEAT DRIED IN ELEVATORS

Question No. 1,150—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. What is the estimated number of bushels of wheat that have been dried in elevators or on the farm (a) in line elevators (b) in government elevators at the Head of the Lakes (c) by farm producers in (i) Saskatchewan (ii) Alberta (iii) Manitoba, in each of the months November and December, 1968, and to the latest date available in January?

2. How many bushels have been dried during said months in interior government elevators?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the reply to this question is as follows:

1. (a) No information is as yet available on the amount of grain dried at line elevators; (b) There are no government elevators at the head of the lakes;

(c) This information is not available on a monthly basis. As of January 3 it is estimated that the following quantities of grain have

[Mr. Benson.]

been dried on farms: Saskatchewan 16.9 million bushels, Alberta 12.9 million bushels, Manitoba 12.3 million bushels.

The answer to the second part of the question is as follows: November 372,000 bushels, December 1,042,000 bushels, January 833,000 bushels up to January 17.

*SASKATOON, SASK.—ESTABLISHMENT OF TELEVISION STATION

Question No. 1,159—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. Will the Secretary of State ascertain from the officials of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation whether favourable consideration is being given to the establishment of a CBC TV station in the City of Saskatoon?

2. If consideration is not now being given, will immediate consideration be given thereto?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I am informed by the C.B.C. as follows: The C.B.C. looks most favourably upon establishment of a C.B.C. television station in Saskatoon and filed an application for such a station some time ago. However, the C.B.C. has asked the Canadian Radio-Television Commission to hold this application in abeyance pending the outcome of current negotiations for the purchase of CHAB-TV, Moose Jaw and CHRE-TV, Regina, which could affect the total C.B.C. service in Saskatchewan.

[English]

ARMED FORCES SUPERANNUATION ACCOUNT

Question No. 1,166—**Mr. Anderson:**

1. How frequently does the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act require a valuation of the Armed Forces Superannuation Account to be laid before Parliament?

2. When was a valuation of the Armed Forces Superannuation Account last made to Parliament?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):

1. At least once in every five years.

2. September 12, 1968.

USE OF GRUMMAN "ALBATROSS" AIRCRAFT

Question No. 1,167—**Mr. Anderson:**

1. How many Grumman "Albatross" aircraft are in use in the Canadian Armed Forces?

2. Are all these aircraft being used for search and rescue purposes?

3. What is the total all up weight of these aircraft when fully loaded with search and rescue equipment, crew and fuel?

4. What is the maximum operating ceiling when fully loaded?