

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

the Indian hearings in Ottawa, why did the minister not state at that time that Alberta was allowed only four delegates?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. That question is argumentative.

## REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON "INDIANS AND THE LAW"

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. On December 18, some time ago, I posed a question about the prospects of the government or the minister making an announcement regarding government policy on the document "Indians and the Law". Since then we have heard nothing. I wonder whether the minister would mind looking at this, so that it may be digested, too?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I have examined the problem, but I do not think that I can table the order in council in question. I have not had a definite answer yet, but I hope to be able to give one to the hon. member this week.

[*English*]

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I think the minister misunderstood my question. I did not ask him about an order in council. I pointed out that on December 18 I had asked whether or not the government would make a statement on policy with respect to the publication "Indians and the Law". I was told that that would be looked into. The minister now tells me something about an order in council and I do not know what the connection is.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** I will study the question, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

**AGRICULTURE**

## COMPLAINT AS TO SEATING AT CONGRESS MEETINGS

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that some farm spokesmen have complained that they have been allocated only a minority of the 400 seats available at the agricultural congress that is to be held in March, will the minister consider a reallocation of seats in order to ensure to farmers the representation to which they are entitled at a conference that is going to decide their future welfare?

[*Mr. Yewchuk.*]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, 175 of the 400 delegate seats have been awarded to producer groups. I think the hon. member's conclusion is unfair, because of the balance of 225 delegate positions, 105 have been allocated to the provincial departments of agriculture and the federal Department of Agriculture. In addition, 25 positions have been allocated to the agricultural faculties of universities across the country. So I do not think that the assertion of the hon. member is in any way fair.

**Mr. Gleave:** A supplementary question which bears upon my previous one. In view of the statement by representatives of western vegetable producers that no seats were given to any marketing board or marketing commission in western Canada at the proposed conference, would the minister be prepared to take a look at this area in particular and to take whatever measures are necessary?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has made a representation to the minister.

## REQUEST FOR DOCUMENT PREPARED FOR DELEGATES

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, a number of questions were asked yesterday about the agricultural congress, to which I could perhaps reply briefly. First, I am advised that copies of the papers for the congress have been supplied to the members of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. There is a limited supply of these documents, but if any hon. members are interested in securing copies and will so indicate to me, I will be happy to see they get them.

**FARM MACHINERY**

## REQUEST FOR ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** May I say, Mr. Speaker, that I have been in touch with the royal commission on farm machinery and they have informed me that they anticipate having available for release the study on all aspects of farm machinery pricing well in advance of the presentation of the final report. It is the view of the commission that an interim report covering solely the aspect of the relative pricing of farm machinery in Great Britain and Canada could be misleading and that the complete study will be much more useful. That study will be available shortly.