Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Scott (Danforth): As a supplementary question, can the minister inform the house whether or not he gave Secretary Rusk the precise amount by which the Canadian aid is to be increased, information which he has now denied us?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I gave Secretary Rusk an indication of our intention, but as we have not finally agreed on the amount it was not possible to put it as precisely as my hon. friend suggests.

PAKISTAN-POSSIBILITY OF REQUEST FOR FOOD AID

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, could the minister say whether a request of very recent date has come from another Commonwealth country, Pakistan, for assistance of a similar kind, and what has been the response thereto?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this matter is now being seriously considered.

DIVORCE

REQUEST TO ESTABLISH JOINT COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, I wish to pose a question to the Prime Minister of which I have given him notice. Would the government consider setting up a joint committee of both houses to consider the matter of divorce legislation?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to my hon. friend for giving me notice of this question as I was coming into the house, and I can tell him we will certainly consider this matter.

AGRICULTURE

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.-GRAIN ELEVATOR EXTENSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture? I should like to ask the minister whether he has yet made a favourable decision in respect of the proposed grain elevator extension at Prince Rupert.

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): No, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

March 7, 1966

FISHERIES

ESTABLISHMENT OF GEOGRAPHICAL CO-OR-DINATES RESPECTING BASE LINES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and ask him whether, as a result of the ministerial meeting in Washington, the government now is in a position to establish geographical co-ordinates in order to delineate the base lines from which Canada's territorial waters and exclusive fishing zones may be measured.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the negotiations in connection with Canada's proposals with regard to the law of the sea were discussed two weeks ago in Washington. The government of the United States has not yet responded to the proposals we have made, but we do expect to hear from them shortly.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Would the Secretary of State for External Affairs tell the house whether negotiations with all other countries have been completed, and is it only the negotiations with the government in Washington that have not been concluded?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian government considers it would prefer, in Canadian interests, to wait until it has a response from the government of the United States before proceeding further with other governments.

Mr. Crouse: I have a further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the hon. minister tell the house how many countries have not yet agreed to these base lines.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The particular proposal has just been put to the United States.

GRAIN

OATS AND BARLEY-INQUIRY AS TO DATE OF FINAL PAYMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker. my question is for the Minister of Finance. When may we expect an announcement with regard to the final accounting of the oats and barley pools of the Canadian Wheat Board.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am expecting the chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board to arrive, as soon as he can dig himself out of Winnipeg.