

this country to help the economy in his and in my particular district. Could we have a report on the minister's progress in this regard?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, we still have ongoing meetings, and as I have said a paper is being prepared for my colleagues in government.

EGGS—DISAGREEMENT AMONG PROVINCES ON  
RECOMMENDATIONS ON MARKETING—POSSIBILITY OF  
FURTHER MEETING OF PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Agriculture. It arises out of the meeting of provincial ministers of agriculture on November 25 in connection with the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency and the recommendations that have been presented. It is to be noted that the recommendations that were adopted were passed on division. Could the Minister of Agriculture advise the House which provinces agreed and which provinces did not agree to the recommendations that have been submitted?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** It was a voice vote and was not recorded, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Inasmuch as the success of CEMA is dependent upon the total co-operation and support of all the provinces, and in view of the fact that the chairman of CEMA has some very grave reservations about the recommendations that have been put forth, would the Minister of Agriculture now see fit to summon the ministers of agriculture together again for another meeting in order that some better understanding and consensus might be arrived at?

**Mr. Whelan:** Mr. Speaker, the opinion of the provincial ministers at the meeting was that they would wait until the parliamentary committee submitted its report. If the committee should happen to recommend any great changes and it was necessary to change legislation, then before the changes were put through the parliament of Canada we would summon the ministers.

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[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

HAITIANS—POSITION OF THOSE WHO REMAIN IN CANADA  
ILLEGALLY

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Could he tell the House what were his findings and what conclusions he reached as a result of the conversation he had on the 21st with Father Déjean, responsible for the Christian Community of Haitians and, in particular, could he tell us whether he is prepared to give specific instructions to the special attorney representing his department before the appeal board when these deportation orders are being considered, in order that the Public

Oral Questions

Prosecutor leave the whole decision to the appeal board and refrain from any representation?

● (1510)

[English]

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, the law requires that this judgment be made by the immigration appeal board. As I have stated on many occasions, the immigration appeal board has the authority to exercise its jurisdiction beyond the decision about the legality or otherwise of any deportation order for any person to which one would be applied, in terms of humanitarian and compassionate grounds or on the occasion of unusual hardship. The board has exercised that kind of jurisdiction and made that kind of decision in the past and it will continue to do so in these particular cases. Our departmental representation before the board is on the basis of upholding the legality of the deportation order, or speaking in the odd case of absolutely frivolous claims to justification for a compassionate or humanitarian decision within the Board's jurisdiction. However, it is the jurisdiction of the board that must be exercised and there is no discriminatory power lodged in me or any member of the government and that is the condition that will prevail.

[Translation]

**Mr. Wagner:** Mr. Speaker, I note that the minister has failed to answer the first part of my supplementary. He may like to do it when answering the supplementary question which I am about to ask.

Following the evidence submitted by Father Déjean, is the minister now satisfied? As shown by two examples during recent weeks, it is extremely dangerous for those deported Haitians to return to their country and on the other hand, even if the deportation order were not enforceable or enforced, it follows that hundreds of Haitians are compelled to live clandestinely with all the human, economic and social effects to which it gives rise.

[English]

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, I had a discussion with Father Déjean last Thursday for two or three hours. I found it informative and interesting, and I indeed expressed to him, as I have expressed in this House, a very deep concern for every individual involved in this situation, as would be the case with anybody who has faced a similar situation, whether they came from Haiti or otherwise. Frankly, Father Déjean did not present to me proof in the sense that the hon. member is implying, or as the words the hon. member used would suggest. I listened to his presentation and would still come to the conclusion that there has to be an individual decision made in each of these cases. That power is vested in the board. We are confident that the board will exercise its jurisdiction and will be able to make a decision as between which case is meritorious on the ground of possible reprisal in the country from whence they came and which are cases of economic migration, which is very distinctly possible in the case of Haitians and others. So, frankly there has not been a change in our position on this matter.