

Inquiries of the Ministry

repayment of interest and principal on current farm improvement loans, Farm Credit Corporation loans and machinery syndicate loans?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): I have answered a question similar to this one several times in the House. I can repeat the answer by saying that any person who has a Farm Credit Corporation loan and wishes to make an application to the corporation and can substantiate that he is unable to make the payments may have those payments deferred. But the hon. member should be aware of that because I have stated it about 14 times in the House.

[Later:]

Mr. Southam: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is related to the one I put to the Minister of Agriculture a moment ago. In view of his arrogant reply to me that he had answered this question 14 times before, did he give those answers outside the House because he sure as heck didn't give them in the House?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Later:]

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): I should like to direct a supplementary question to both ministers but in light of the fact that the minister in charge of the Wheat Board has had to answer a number of questions, I will direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Agriculture.

The question is related to the one put by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain with regard to the repayment of interest on loans. In view of the Barber Commission report and the number of foreclosures on farm machinery by machine and finance companies and in view of the minister's talks with the machine companies with regard to the findings of the Barber Commission on the sale of farm machinery, would he request in the future—I know he has not done so in the past—that these machinery companies place a moratorium on foreclosures and on the reclaiming of their farm machinery until the farmers are in a position to sell grain and to pay for the machinery, which they mostly want to do?

Mr. Olson: It is not quite right to say that I did not discuss this matter with some of the manufacturers—

Mr. Horner: You said so yourself.

[Mr. Southam.]

Mr. Olson:—although it was not a subject matter that was contained in the Barber Commission report. But I did draw to the attention of the presidents of some of the companies that there was some concern about this matter, and they have advised me that they have renewed and deferred a large number of the notes that they are holding for farm machinery in Canada.

Mr. Horner: Would the minister disclose to the House and to the country the number of loans that were being foreclosed and the percentage of loans on which the machine companies have agreed to place a moratorium or to delay foreclosures?

Mr. Olson: I am not sure I can get that information in the way asked by the hon. member, but certainly I could ask them whether they could provide us with some of that information.

[Translation]

NATIONAL PARKS**QUEBEC—ESTABLISHMENT OF A PARK
IN ST. MAURICE**

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Has his department made any decision concerning the national park in the St. Maurice valley?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, no final decision has been made; however, I am supposed to meet with the provincial authorities tomorrow concerning that problem as well as that of the Forillon national park.

[English]

INDUSTRY**ASSISTANCE TO DE HAVILLAND STOL
AIRCRAFT PROGRAM**

Mr. Barney Danson (York North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce if there has been federal government assistance involved continue its DHC-7 STOL aircraft program and, if so, what is the nature of this assistance and its extent?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, up to in the decision of de Havilland Canada to