

Questions

Board, under Section 22(2) of the National Energy Board Act to undertake such a study and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): The National Energy Board reports as follows: No, in view of other priorities this study is not desirable at this time.

RETURN RECEIVED BY CANADIAN
WHEAT PRODUCERS

Question No. 1,880—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. Do Canadian wheat producers receive less return, per bushel of wheat, than European community wheat producers and, if so, by what amount?

2. Do Canadian barley producers receive less return per bushel of barley than European community barley producers and, if so, by what amount?

3. Is it possible for the Canadian Government to institute practices which would result in the Canadian producers of wheat and barley receiving returns from their products comparable to those received by European producers?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (For the Canadian Wheat Board): In so far as the Canadian Wheat Board is concerned: 1 and 2.

Wheat and Barley Producers—Average
Returns Per Bushel in U.S. Dollars

	Wheat 1968/69	Barley 1968/69
West Germany	2.55	2.01
Canada	1.30	.79
Difference	1.25	1.22
France	2.48	1.70
Canada	1.30	.79
Difference	1.18	.91
Italy	2.73	2.12
Canada	1.30	.79
Difference	1.43	1.33
Netherlands	2.72	1.95
Canada	1.30	.79
Difference	1.42	1.16
Belgium	2.55	1.80
Canada	1.30	.79
Difference	1.25	1.01

Note: Wheat returns for EEC countries do not include durum.

3. The EEC is a net importer of grain. Most of the grain produced in the EEC is also consumed there. Thus, the EEC countries are able to pass most of the cost of their high support prices on directly to EEC consumers. Domestic producers are protected from competition through a system of import levies and funds from this source are used to subsidize exports.

[Mr. Saltzman.]

Canada on the other hand is a major net exporter of grain. If EEC levels of support were adopted in Canada the cost to taxpayers of export subsidies to reduce prices to competitive levels would be much greater than in countries which export a small proportion of their grain production. Similarly Canadian livestock producers, who are also interested in increasing their exports, would require subsidies to offset the increased cost of feedstuffs. The cost of these subsidies to livestock producers and to exporters of grain would be prohibitive.

BRIDGEWATER, N.S.—FEDERAL BUILDING

Question No. 1,893—**Mr. Crouse:**

1. What progress is being made towards acquiring a site for a new federal building in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia?

2. On what date is it anticipated a site will be acquired?

3. After acquisition of a site, on what date does the government plan construction of a federal building?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. A number of sites are being investigated.

2 and 3. Not known.

TRANS CANADA HIGHWAY

Question No. 1,908—**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):**

1. What is the percentage contribution by the Government of Canada to any construction now under way in the Trans Canada Highway system and does it vary from province to province?

2. How many miles, by province, remain to be completed and what is the anticipated completion date for an all Canada highway link to Trans Canada Highway standard?

3. Since 1966, what has been the total, by province, of the federal contribution toward the cost of the construction of the Trans Canada Highway, and, in each year, what was the percentage contribution, by province, of any such construction?

4. What is the estimated cost of completing the Trans Canada Highway and what is the estimated federal share?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. In the Atlantic Provinces the federal government's contribution is 90 per cent of the shareable construction costs. In the remaining provinces the federal contribution is 90 per cent of the shareable construction costs on a designated 10 per cent of the mileage in each province and 50 per cent of the shareable construction costs on the remaining 90 per cent of the mileage.