

*Inquiries of the Ministry***RESEARCH**

**Mr. Hees:** I will rev it up a little. Would the Postmaster General set aside work on his space age projects until postal deliveries can at least be brought up to the pace maintained by stage coaches and the pony express of a hundred years ago?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Postmaster General a supplementary question, in light of the denial he made a few moments ago? Is the Post Office Department considering any reduction in the service the department now makes available to the Canadian people?

**Mr. Kierans:** The underlying philosophy of the Post Office is to examine the cost of all services and then to determine, in consultation with the people to whom we supply those services, whether the services are worth the cost, or the taxes. Accordingly we are making an examination of all our present services and will make an appropriate recommendation when the time comes. I wish to say this, however: We do not envisage there will be any reason for any person who presently works in the Post Office and who wishes to make the Post Office his career, to feel any loss of security.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** In view of the fact that delivery service was reduced from six days to five days without consultation with the people of Canada, is there to be a further reduction without consultation?

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** A supplementary question to the Postmaster General in relation to his remark about studying costs. I would ask the minister whether this would include the cost of the concessions granted to *Time* magazine. Or is the government still scared?

**Mr. Kierans:** We are reviewing the concessions presently granted to all newspapers and magazines. There is no particular concession granted to *Time* magazine or to *Reader's Digest*.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Bell:** You will be man of the year for that.

**Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey):** Is it true, as has been reported, that the Postmaster General is trying to get the Post Office out of the mail delivery service?

**AUSTERITY MEASURES IN ANIMALS PROGRAM**

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether he is now ready to answer this question which was first asked two months ago, or more. Has Canada's reputation been seriously hurt and jeopardized in the field of animal research, and has the health of scientists engaged in this field been endangered by austerity measures? If so, what corrective steps are being taken?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. It seems to me the hon. member is asking the minister to express an opinion. I have the impression that he is asking for a statement of policy which would normally not be made at this time.

**Mr. Rynard:** When I asked this question first, Mr. Speaker, Your Honour suggested that a statement could be made on motions. I asked that this be done, but it has not been done.

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** I have a brief reply here, Mr. Speaker, which I have carried with me since March 20 when the question was first asked—I think it was also asked on April 23. Very shortly, the reply is that Canada's reputation has not been hurt.

**SHIPPING****SALVAGE OF TUG "EMERALD STRAITS"—  
REQUEST FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** May I direct a question to the Minister of Transport, Mr. Speaker? Would the minister be good enough to advise the house of the terms of reference to His Honour Judge John C. Stewart, appointed to preside over a court of formal investigation into the circumstances which led to the sinking of the tug *Emerald Straits*? Will he further tell the house whether the terms of reference include authority to report on the physical structure of this type of vessel in view of the fact that 27 men have lost their lives in similar tugs—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member has asked the minister to indicate the terms of reference, and in those circumstances I think he is asking a question which should be placed on the order paper.

**Mr. Winch:** The investigation has already begun, Mr. Speaker, yet we do not know what the terms of reference are.