

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

taken before Christmas on this subject has been subject to review since that time and is still subject to review?

**Mr. Trudeau:** No, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition should not take that to be the case. I explained a couple of days ago that the broad decision had been taken in December and that we are now working out the conditions under which that decision would apply and the various aspects of implementing that decision, which I reminded the House was a further matter for consideration and which we hope will lead us close to the period when we can introduce legislation dealing with the whole question.

[Later:]

FOREIGN INVESTMENT—CONSULTATION WITH  
PROVINCES ON POLICY

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** My supplementary is to the Prime Minister. As the elaboration of policy or the decision on such a policy will have such wide ramifications for the country and in view of the obvious interest and concern of members of provincial governments, has the Prime Minister or the Minister of Finance had an opportunity to confer directly with the premiers or their provincial counterparts to consider the implications of any national policy in this regard?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I informed the House before Christmas that the matter had been discussed in general terms at the federal-provincial conference of first ministers. We did not, of course, supply to them the details of our policy or even, for that matter, the broad details because, I repeat, we wanted to inform the House of Commons of it first. However, we did discuss the matter with them in general terms and got whatever information we could from them. As the hon. member knows, some provinces are pursuing their work on foreign ownership and they are doing that parallel to the federal government. We hope the end result will dovetail in a way which is satisfactory to all Canadians.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT—ALLEGED REJECTION OF DATE  
SUGGESTED BY MINISTER OF NATIONAL REVENUE FOR  
POLICY STATEMENT

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** I should like to ask the right hon. Prime Minister if he could explain to the House the reasons why he and his government rejected the very valid recommendations that the policy statement on foreign ownership be made toward the end of the throne speech debate, which recommendations were contained in a memorandum from the Minister of National Revenue dated February 14?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that a question asked in those terms is not in order. In this way the hon. member is inviting the Prime Minister to make a statement which normally ought to be made on motions.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Could I rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Skeena.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** May I ask the right hon. gentleman whether he would be prepared to table that memorandum from the Minister of National Revenue on this subject so that everybody may see what those valid suggestions were and in order that the Minister of National Revenue, who knows more about this obviously than the Prime Minister—

**Some hon. Members:** Order!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

HOGS—REQUEST THAT FEED GRAIN FREIGHT SUBSIDY  
BE RE-ESTABLISHED

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

In view of the fact that for the past two years the prices of hogs in eastern Canada have been too low to permit survival of producers and that since October 1969 the government has cut down the transport grant for grains by \$1.40 per ton for practically all constituencies in the Montreal area, including the county of Richmond, could the minister state whether his department intends to reinstate grain transport subsidies in these ridings in order to assist hog producers?

[English]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister has already announced that there will be some adjustments in the rates of feed freight assistance paid. The zones in eastern Canada where the rate will be raised are those where there has been an actual increase in cost of transportation. What we are attempting to do is to adjust these rates into the various zones so that the amount paid by producers or users of feed grains will be balanced a little more equitably than has been the case to date, as a result of changes in transportation costs.

[Translation]

DATE OF FEED GRAIN FREIGHT SUBSIDY ADJUSTMENT

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Can the minister give us some indication as to approximately when his department intends to implement these adjustments?

• (1120)

[English]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. In fact I can make it very precise—on April 1, 1972. That has already been announced.