

during Question Period. I certainly do not have information on that scale available, because it might cover a broad front, as my honourable friend has indicated. I will have to consider the question as an order for return.

● (1450)

Senator Olson: Will the Leader of the Government give some undertaking that we are going to get the answer before we recess? It is not a matter of giving notice today. I have asked this question many times, and I have asked for specific parts of it or for the whole answer. What he is going to do is to leave all of the agriculture producers wondering whether they are facing a \$50 million cut or not. Could he give us an undertaking that he will give us the answer before the recess begins?

Senator Roblin: I am afraid I cannot give such an undertaking because of the nature of the question involved. However, I will make an urgent appeal to my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, expressing my honourable friend's concern to see what we can do to expedite the matter. A firm undertaking is another matter.

LABOUR

FAIR WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR ACT—GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS PROVISIONS

Hon. Earl A. Hastings: Honourable senators, I have a question I should like to direct to the Leader of the Government in the Senate pertaining to the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act of 1970. Does the government fully subscribe to and support the intent and spirit of that act?

Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I think the government is duty bound to carry out any legislation that is on the books of the country.

Senator Hastings: I have a supplementary question which I put to the Leader of the Government. I appreciate that he will have to take it as notice. Could he explain why the act is not being invoked in respect of the construction of the Olympic speed skating oval which is part of the Olympic installations at the University of Calgary to which the government has contributed \$35 million? Why is that Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act not being applied to that project?

Senator Roblin: As my honourable friend has assumed, it is not a matter with which I am familiar. I will have to take the question as notice.

Senator Hastings: I thank him for the answer, but could I urge the government leader to provide a reply as quickly as possible because it is a matter of urgent concern to the city of Calgary? I would appreciate having that information so that I can communicate it to those people most closely concerned.

Senator Roblin: My friend makes a difficult request because answers to questions and orders for return really have to be given first in the Senate. I am not sure that it is constitutional for me to promise to do something else. However, I know of his

interest and if I can find some appropriate way of letting him know, I will see what I can do about it.

Senator Olson: Try a letter. It works.

TRANSPORT

AIRPORT SECURITY

Hon. Dalia Wood: Honourable senators, I have a question for the Leader of the Government in the Senate. I read in an article this morning that the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Don Mazankowski, had postponed plans to replace the RCMP until a full-scale review of airport security was completed and that this inquiry will be conducted by the very people who are responsible for the present system.

While watching *Canada A.M.* this morning I listened in horror as the captain of a CP flight out of Toronto yesterday told how a passenger with a hunting knife hanging from his belt passed the security scanner and boarded the plane. Fortunately, the stewardess noticed the knife. It seems that he had already passed two security checkpoints with this knife.

In view of this incident, I ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate to urge the government that an inquiry be conducted as quickly as possible but by an independent agency.

Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I do not think my honourable friend is correct in saying that the RCMP are going to be the judges of their own action insofar as the checking of baggage is concerned because up to the present time that has not been part of their responsibility. They will be looking at the question *de novo* and looking at it from an impartial point of view. They will also be assisted in their studies by an organization which, for lack of recalling the proper name, I will refer to as the secret service. They are also part of this investigation and it may well be that the Committee for Aviation Safety that operates under the Department of Transport will be looking into the matter as well. I think it will receive a thorough consideration.

The incident that my honourable friend speaks of where people get by the security guard is one of the most worrying problems of the whole system. I hope that we can find better ways of minimizing that kind of thing, although I am afraid I have to admit that there is no system that I know of that is going to be completely foolproof.

Hon. Ian Sinclair: Honourable senators, I have a question I should like to direct to the Leader of the Government and it is supplementary to that of Senator Wood. Both ICAO and IATA have called special meetings for later this week to look into the matter of security. Could the leader inform honourable senators as to what position the government is taking in regard to their representations at ICAO, and are they giving the Canadian members of IATA any directions as to the position they should take in regard to security?

Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I can only answer in general terms. Since the announcement has been made only in the past few hours, my