

*Transport and Communications*

implication, direct the government to introduce or parliament to enact legislation. The accepted form of a committee's recommendation dealing with proposed legislation is "that the government give consideration to the advisability of introducing the necessary legislation."

I recognize the very valid point raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and by other hon. members, and it is my belief that the new rules have upgraded the committees. Perhaps we should depart from the long established procedures and allow committees to make reports which do not necessarily follow the rules which have been accepted, as far as their form is concerned. However, I would doubt very much that the Chair is empowered to accept these changes. That is the type of question, which in my view might well be considered by the Committee on Procedure. That committee might submit a report to the house indicating whether the form of committee reports should be changed to take into account a new status of the committees in the legislative process.

• (4:20 p.m.)

This having been said and with the reservations outlined the Chair is disposed to allow the question now to be put to the house.

CONCURRENCE IN FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. H.-Pit Lessard (LaSalle)** moved that the Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, presented to the House on Wednesday, March 19, 1969, be concurred in.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, it now being 4.25 and since there is the prospect of some debate on this matter I wonder if it would be agreeable to let it stand until tomorrow so that we might get on with the routine proceedings today.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, we are agreeable if the house leader will give his assurance that this matter will be brought forward for debate tomorrow.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** As you know, there is no way I could prevent its being brought forward tomorrow.

**Mr. McGrath:** You have been known to try. Motion stands.

[Mr. Speaker.]

**QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER**

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

AVERAGE REVENUE OF CANADIAN FARMER

Question No. 1,404—**Mr. Caouette:**

During the last three years, what was the average income of farmers (a) in Canada (b) in the Province of Quebec (c) in the federal constituency of Témiscamingue?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** In so far as the Dominion Bureau of Statistics is concerned, the information requested is not available.

[English]

\*INDIANS—DETAILS OF SURVEY CONDUCTED BY SALLY ROBINSON

Question No. 1,493—**Mr. Howard (Skeena):**

1. Was Sally Robinson employed to conduct any surveys or studies relating to Native Indian people, especially on Vancouver Island?

2. If so, what, in detail, were the terms of reference given to her on the terms of any contract under which she was employed and by whom was she employed?

3. Between what dates was she so employed and how much money was she paid?

4. Which communities did she visit in the course of the survey or study?

**Mr. H. E. Gray (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I am answering this question on behalf of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The answer to the first part of the question is as follows: Sally Robinson was not at any time employed by the department. The answer to the second, third and fourth parts of the question is that the department has no information about the details of such a survey.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE  
NEWS BRIEFINGS

Question No. 1,531—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. Were groups of news media representatives at the Federal-Provincial Conference given private or "background" briefings by federal public servants and, if so (a) who authorized these briefings (b) how many such briefings occurred?

2. In each case, which departments were involved and which officials?

3. In each case, what was the specific purpose of the briefing?