

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

## FARM CREDIT CORPORATION—ARREARS OF SCHEDULED REPAYMENTS

Question No. 1006—**Mr. Thomson:**

What percentage of scheduled repayments to the Farm Credit Corporation were in arrears from farmers in (a) 1967 (b) 1968 (c) 1969 (d) 1970?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** The Farm Credit Corporation advises that as of the end of the fiscal year the amount remaining in arrears as a percentage of the amount due during the year was as follows: (a) 1966-67, 6.1 per cent; (b) 1967-68, 6.7 per cent; (c) 1968-69, 8.4 per cent; (d) 1969-70, 12.4 per cent.

## YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.—CONSTRUCTION OF ARMED FORCES HEADQUARTERS

Question No. 1009—**Mr. Nielsen:**

1. With respect to the tenders called by Defence Construction (1951) Limited for the construction of a new Armed Forces Headquarters building at Yellowknife (a) what persons, firms or corporations submitted tenders (b) what was the amount of each such tender?

2. Has the contract yet been awarded for the construction and, if so, to what person, firm or corporation was the contract so awarded?

3. What is the intended date of the commencement of construction and completion of the project?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence):** 1. (a) Mod Industries Ltd., Box 877, Langley, B.C.; (b) \$276,989.

2. Yes, to Mod Industries Ltd.

3. Construction commenced October 2, 1970 and is scheduled to complete June 15, 1971.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

## YOUTH

## STUDENT SUMMER EMPLOYMENT—MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAM—EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether there is a minister in charge of developing a program for this summer in connection with students?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, my answer is that the cabinet is involved in constructing this program. I think it is substantially completed and I would expect an announcement in full of our intentions to be made in a very short period of time.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the lecture we had earlier this afternoon from the President of the Treasury Board about the importance of decisions, and since the vacation season for students will soon be here, in spite of all the snow we see around us, may we have a decision without further delay in order that any program

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

the government proposes will have some possibility of being of some assistance to the students affected?

**Mr. Laing:** Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure I can give an assurance to the Leader of the Opposition that our action will be announced in ample time to take care of the students who leave university after May 15, I believe.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Oh, come on; where do you live?

**Mr. Laing:** Well, probably we study harder in the province of British Columbia,—

**Mr. Baldwin:** And there is more need to do so.

**Mr. Laing:** —but that is when they leave university, and then there are those students who get out of high school on June 30.

[Translation]

## CANCELLATION OF CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY CANADIAN COUNCIL ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the hon. Secretary of State.

In view of the questions which were directed to the Acting Prime Minister last Friday, could the Secretary of State tell us why the government has decided not to participate in the conference sponsored by the Canadian Council on Social Development?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I could not tell the hon. member which reason was determinant. Among others, I know that there was a problem of dates for this conference. I am aware also that other considerations were involved. It shall please me very much to summarize them for the information of the hon. member, as soon as I can, but I understand that in the end there is no more talk of participating in this conference, because it will not take place.

[English]

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the considerable concern voiced last week about the cancellation of this important conference on transient youth and summer employment for students, which was to involve not only federal but also provincial representation, I wonder if the Secretary of State would indicate whether at the planning stage this conference was not delayed by at least a month at the request of the federal government?

[Translation]

**Mr. Pelletier:** Mr. Speaker, as I have said before, there were major considerations, particularly conflicting dates. Last Thursday the Acting Prime Minister stated that we could not announce the particulars of the program because consultations were taking place with the provinces and these had to come to an end before any official statement was made. The same difficulty would have come up if the conference had been held; the organizers would have invited representatives of the federal govern-