

parliamentary secretary, and at the same time let this House know that it is going to operate properly and questions will be answered, however embarrassing to the government?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

● (1550)

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have already done so. I have already spoken to my colleagues. I have been told by them, however, and I have examined the question as well, that there are some questions being put on the order paper—

**An hon. Member:** That are embarrassing.

**Mr. Sharp:** Not that are embarrassing but that involve an enormous expenditure of public funds. When questions are asked, I think they should be put in a form that can be answered quickly and with a minimum of expense.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to one of the ministers who was spanked, the Minister of Transport. I have every sympathy for a minister who is spanked by a parliamentary secretary—but then every minister has my sympathy. I should like to ask the Minister of Transport to tell us what is the reason for the delay over months—and on the last occasion over two weeks—in answering a question regarding one of our former colleagues, the Honourable Mr. Pickersgill. There is no difficulty there and an answer should not take months. Why the delay?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, sometimes in life there are coincidences which nobody can foresee. At the very moment the hon. gentleman was asking this question, I was signing the answer in my book.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, such an unusual act on the part of the government deserves the highest commendation. Those that see wrongdoing and finally act deserve every commendation.

**An hon. Member:** How long has it been in your book?

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## AGRICULTURE

### INDEX FORMULA FOR MILK PRICING—SUGGESTED CONSULTATIONS WITH INTERESTED GROUPS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

**Mr. John Wise (Elgin):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. On January 24 the minister indicated in the House that a review of the dairy industry had been completed and that an index formula for milk pricing had been finalized. I should like to ask the minister whether he intends to make this formula available for study to the dairy farmers of Canada, producer associations, provincial marketing boards and other interested groups in the industry prior to the implementation of such a program?

## Oral Questions

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I do not remember the exact verbiage I used on the date the hon. member mentions.

**An hon. Member:** Did you say garbage?

**Mr. Whelan:** But a policy has been developed after a long period of study with input from all the organizations and the provinces. We will have final discussions with the people most concerned, the dairy farmers of Canada, before the final formula is presented to the industry.

**Mr. Wise:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is it the minister's intention to introduce this program on or about April 1, the beginning of the normal dairy year?

**Mr. Whelan:** Mr. Speaker, I hope to have it at least by that time but sooner if at all possible so that people can understand the policy and it can be explained to them before it is actually put into use.

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## POST OFFICE

### POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF PICTURE OF QUEEN FROM PRESTAMPED ENVELOPES

**Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General. Is it government policy that effective March 3 or soon thereafter the Post Office prestamped envelopes will no longer carry the image of the Queen and if so, what will be represented?

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General):** Mr. Speaker, we have been issuing stamps for many, many years that do not carry the image of the Queen. We will carry the image of the Queen in future years, however, as we have done in the past as well, as, who knows, some day pictures of past Postmasters General.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE IN EXTRADITION TREATY WITH UNITED STATES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. On January 24, my colleague the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo brought to the attention of the Acting Prime Minister the tragic death of a young boy in Hamilton as a result of a motor vehicle accident. The vehicle was driven by one Thomas Martin. At that time the hon. member asked whether the government was prepared to serve notice on the government of the United States that it should amend the extradition treaty to ensure that the charge of criminal negligence was included. The minister said that this particular point was not raised when he signed the last extradition treaty but that he would take the situation under consideration. This is a very important matter. I wonder whether the minister followed it up and if he has a reply for us?