

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as you indicated my question was not proper I will put it to the minister this way. Has the government ignored the principle of Canadian ownership which was established when it first negotiated for the production of heavy water?

**Mr. Drury:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** Then it is false, Mr. Speaker—

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

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I would now ask the minister to withdraw the statement that he originally made in respect of Canadian ownership as being a falsehood.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. There is no question of privilege.

[*Translation*]

**AIR CANADA****ADVERTISEMENT RESPECTING LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS OF HOSTESSES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill).

Is he aware that in its advertisements for air stewardesses, Air Canada stipulates that a knowledge of French is not required, but is merely an additional asset?

Is this new policy of Air Canada and does the Minister of Transport intend to take action in this connection?

[*English*]

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the advertisement I saw said that French was an asset, and I would not quarrel with that statement at all. Indeed, I have always found it to be a great asset, and I shall do my best to convince Air Canada that it is a steadily growing asset.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Grégoire:** I should like to ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

In view of the fact that the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill) seems to have read the advertisement I mentioned, in which it is said that a knowledge of English is required, but that French is only an added asset, is it the intention of the Minister of Transport to see that knowledge of the two official languages be required, not only in games and witticisms, but as a matter of hard fact?

[Mr. Speaker.]

[*English*]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I will convey the hon. gentleman's views to the attention of the company.

**AGRICULTURE****ALBERTA—REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the desperate nature of the situation would the minister review the decision of the government to refuse co-operation with the government of the province of Alberta in providing assistance to the hard-pressed farmers of northern Alberta?

**Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I might point out to the hon. member that we have reviewed this question in considerable depth. I attended and had useful and cordial discussions with the officials of the province of Alberta in this regard. The situation is that the area is a P.F.A.A. area and in the past three years they have already received some \$5.4 million in P.F.A.A. payments of which \$2.7 million were provided by the federal treasury. As a result they do not come into the same category as the other provinces which had received no federal aid in the past and to which we therefore were able to contribute on a 50-50 basis with the provinces.

If we stepped into this area we would not only jeopardize the whole premises of P.F.A.A. which has served the western provinces so well but I think we would also be preferring Alberta over other provinces in granting them money on a further 50-50 basis of contributions on top of our P.F.A.A. payments. However, I am deeply concerned about these people and I share the concern of the hon. member for his constituents who I know are very hard-pressed in this regard. We will certainly continue to review the matter and, if it can be equitably done, as soon as the province has met the contributions we have made to date so that they are on a 50-50 basis we could consider further contributions on the same basis as those granted to other provinces.

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, I preface my supplementary question by extending my best wishes to the minister and congratulating him upon his escape and safe return after a mad dash across western Canada. In making this review would he read with some care