

(all member states) or the ICAO Council (27 member states). Last April the United States of America and Canada co-sponsored a draft convention providing for the enforcement of international legal obligations relating to unlawful interference with civil aviation but the ICAO Assembly transferred this proposal to its inactive list of subjects because of opposition from a number of member states.

3. ICAO has been actively involved with the question of skyjacking and other related matters affecting the safety of international civil aviation for some time. Under ICAO auspices the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft was signed in Tokyo on September 14, 1963. Canada ratified this convention on November 7, 1969. The Convention came into effect on December 4, 1969.

The Seventeenth Session (Extraordinary) of the ICAO Assembly, held in Montreal from July 16 to 30, 1970, had for its agenda the single item calling for the "development of adequate security specifications and practices, for application by ICAO States in international civil aviation, aimed at the protection of air passengers, civil aviation personnel and civil aircraft by (a) preventing criminal action of any kind that may endanger the safety of air transport and (b) consideration of arrangements under which those responsible for criminal actions endangering civil air transport can be brought to justice." Two Diplomatic Conferences on matters related to skyjacking followed which resulted in: (a) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft signed at The Hague on December 16, 1970; (b) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation signed at Montreal on September 23, 1971. Canada will ratify The Hague and Montreal Conventions as soon as Parliament approves the necessary amendments to the Criminal Code tabled recently in the House of Commons. Neither of these conventions have been ratified by the required number of countries to have it come into effect.

The ICAO Council has also set up a Committee on Unlawful Interference with International Civil Aviation and its Facilities to deal with problems of (1) unlawful seizure of aircraft and (2) sabotage or armed attack directed against aircraft used in international air transport or ground facilities used by international air transport. Canada is not a member of this committee.

MARKET DEVELOPMENT OF GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

Question No. 282—**Mr. Robinson:**

What increase in sales of grains and oilseeds is anticipated as a result of the new federal financial incentives program during 1972-73?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister Responsible for Canadian Wheat Board): The new Federal Market Development Program for Grains and Oilseeds, of which financial assistance to the private sector of the grains industry is a major element, has the twofold aim of maintaining the level of Canadian sales in present markets as well as locating and developing new opportunities in areas where our commercial sales can be increased.

Questions

Activities are being concentrated on those markets in which we believe prospects are best for establishing a solid commercial footing. Because the central thrust of the program is to assist private firms, associations and similar entities to identify and develop viable commercial market opportunities, the increase in sales resulting from the program will be the cumulative total of the results of all the individual projects. Until more experience is gained in the execution of such projects it is not possible to anticipate with any precision what that total will be during 1972-73.

Although in a limited number of cases the impact of projects may be indirect and therefore difficult to measure in terms of increased sales, in most instances the sponsors of projects are required to show convincing evidence that support of their project will yield a very high ratio of benefit (i.e. a sustained increase in Canadian grains and oilseeds sales) in relation to cost.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO CARRY OUT PROGRAM CONCERNING HARD-CORE WELFARE RECIPIENTS

Question No. 283—**Mr. Robinson:**

1. Will the government consider the advisability of providing municipalities with support funds to carry out a program regarding hard-core welfare recipients who have previously been rejected from employment and are considered unemployable?

2. Will the government consider the advisability of providing incentives to welfare recipients to become gainfully employed?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Under Part III of the Canada Assistance Plan, the federal government will share in the cost to provinces and municipalities of undertaking work activity programs to prepare for the entry or the return to employment of persons in need or persons likely to become persons in need who, because of environmental, personal or family reasons, have unusual difficulty in obtaining or retaining employment or in improving, through technical, vocational or rehabilitation programs, their ability to obtain or retain employment.

2. Provincial legislation defines the levels of income and assets permitted welfare recipients, and the trend is to provide larger earning exemptions for recipients who work.

METRIC SYSTEM

Question No. 288—**Mr. Robinson:**

Will the government advise if the program for introduction of the metric system will be co-ordinated with that of other countries embarking on the same system and in particular with that of the United States?

Mr. Bruce Howard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): The Metric Commission is keeping in close touch with the developments in the United States and other countries in regard to the adoption of metric standards and measurements and is studying the extent to which programs of conversion in individual industries will require to be co-ordinated with similar programs in the United States.