Oral Questions

and control by the Canadian Wheat Board will be the principal factor in the considerations put before that conference?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I am sure that because of representation which has been made by members of parliament from across the country as well as by provincial premiers and provincial ministers of agriculture. It certainly will be discussed.

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SUGGESTION THAT FIXED DATES BE ESTABLISHED FOR OPENING AND CLOSING OF SESSION—GOVERNMENT'S POSITION

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the House leader, the President of the Privy Council.

Since hon. members of all parties would like to go on holiday but are unable to do so, is the House leader now considering the possibility that Parliament or the government summon the Houses and suggest that adjournments and prorogations take place on fixed dates, so that we can know where we are going?

[English]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, it has been the intention of the government in the past number of years to target for adjournment toward the end of June or early July. That was achieved in all sessions of the last parliament with one exception. Because of the large volume of public business, we were unfortunately not able to adjourn at the end of June. However, I am working with my colleagues in the other parties in the expectation or maybe the hope we can adjourn within a week or so if we can make proper arrangements with regard to the completion of public business.

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Does the minister think that if the government introduced its legislation in proper time we would be able to end the session by the end of June?

[English]

AIR CANADA

DISPUTE WITH CANADIAN AIRLINE EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION—ALLEGED FAILURE OF NEGOTIATIONS—
GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. As talks have broken off between Air Canada and the Canadian Airline Employees Association, what steps will the minister now take to resolve this situation?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the best way I could answer that would be to indicate [Mr. Gleave.]

we will be looking at the situation very closely for further reactions of the parties involved in the course of the weekend. That will leave the option open as to whether further intervention is required by myself or my department.

ALLEGED USE OF NON-UNION PERSONNEL BY COMPANY DURING STRIKE—REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO PROSECUTE

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour. In answer to questions in the House last week, the minister indicated he was reserving judgment on a request from the union involved in the strike referred to asking for leave to prosecute the company for unfair labour practices until such time as mediation had a chance to work. Now that mediation talks have broken off, is the minister prepared to accede to the union's request to prosecute?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member states that mediation talks have broken off. I have tried to indicate I hope this is a temporary situation.

ALLEGED USE OF NON-UNION PERSONNEL DURING STRIKE—RESULTS OF INQUIRY BY MINISTER

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Has the minister completed his inquiry into allegations that Air Canada is forcing non-union personnel to act in the capacity of the striking workers? If he has completed those investigations, what are the results?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): I have not completed the investigation, Mr. Speaker.

PENITENTIARIES

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF CONDITIONS IN VIEW OF SUICIDES AT PRINCE ALBERT—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Solicitor General whether consideration has been given by him or by the government to the appointment of a commission to inquire into conditions in penitentiaries in general. I mention in this connection with Prince Albert Penitentiary where in recent months there have been six suicides and guards have been dangerously attacked.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): We have been extremely concerned about the suicides at Prince Albert Penitentiary and an internal inquiry has taken place. However, the inquiry determined that there was no apparent cause or consistent pattern for these suicides. I might add that we have recently received a report from a board of psychiatric advisers—it will be made public in a week or so—in which recommendations are made for dealing with potential suicides. One of them is to build a medical and psychiatric centre in the prairie provinces where these people could be kept and treated. We hope to