

*Oral Questions*

ment for their management. Furthermore, a Bill is soon to be introduced in the House to authorize the changes made to CDIC and related corporations. This Bill will also introduce amendments which will enable the House to hold these corporations accountable to a greater extent for their management.

● (1430)

[*English*]

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister knows that up to this point none of the procedures have been changed in terms of the accountability of this Crown corporation or of any other Crown corporation. The Minister knows that an annual appearance before a committee of the House is a totally inadequate way for Members of the House to assume their responsibility for the spending of public money. The Minister knows that this situation has not been changed when it is precisely what should be changed when dealing with this Crown corporation and with others.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW CORPORATION—GOVERNMENT  
POLICY

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister a final supplementary question dealing with the viability of the new entity which will now be financed with hundreds of millions of dollars by the people of Canada. Will he assure the House that if the new Canadair becomes financially viable, as we hope it will, the Government will not, having used taxpayers' money to fund it, turn it over at some point to the private sector which will reap long-run benefits if profits should start to come in?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to come back to the first or one of the first elements of the preamble of the question asked by the Hon. Member. While he said that appearing once a year before a Standing Committee of the House was not enough to make these corporations accountable for their management to Parliament, I would like to point out to him that, in the last few months, there have been opportunities of examining the accounts of these companies both before the Standing Committee where the Minister concerned is now appearing and before the Public Accounts Committee. Yesterday, I tabled in the House a reply given by the Minister before the Committee on Public Accounts which considered the situation at Canadair. I believe that in a year there are more than one opportunity of examining these issues and the Hon. Member should keep this in mind.

As far as the viability of Canadair is concerned, I can see that the Hon. Member is very optimistic and has already been convinced by the arguments put before the Special Committee by the Senator who is responsible, since he is already forecasting profits for Canadair. I congratulate him for being so confident in the new management mechanisms which the Government has introduced to ensure Canadair's viability.

[*English*]

INCOME TAX ACT

PART-TIME FARMERS' INCOME—MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I shall make a point of order relating to Question Period at three o'clock.

Now that the Minister of Agriculture has finally entered the Chamber, I would like to ask him a question. The Minister has pointed out that all farm organizations, tax accountants, tax lawyers, and the Canadian Tax Foundation, have agreed that Section 31 of the Income Tax Act dealing with small and part-time farmers must be changed to be in tune with the times. As well, on July 18 and July 20 when the Minister talked with his provincial counterparts in Brudenell, he told them that they did not need to set up another task force but only needed to make representations to him which he would pass on. I wonder why the Minister of Agriculture has failed to convince the Minister of Finance of these things? The Minister of Finance has obviously not taken the Minister of Agriculture's advice, because the Minister of Finance has now set up another task force.

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member would like to check further, he would find that I told the provincial Ministers who attended the conference in Brudenell to go back to their Premiers and get government support for a change. I do not think that I heard one of those Ministers say that he had the support of his Government. I did hear from the Ministers individually, but I did not hear from the Government of Ontario, for instance. I did not hear Premier Davis say that he wanted that change made, and I did not hear any of the other provincial Premiers say that they wanted that legislation changed. The lawyers, accountants, and organizations mentioned by the Hon. Member, will have the opportunity to present their views to the committee which is being set up and which, I understand, will report back very quickly.

**Mr. Dick:** The Minister of Agriculture made some very interesting comments but, unfortunately, no reference whatsoever was made in the confidential minutes of that meeting indicating that the Ministers were to go and see their Premiers. They obviously thought that they represented the farming communities.

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 31—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Finance, but he is not present in the House. Perhaps the Minister of State for Finance might be able to comment on why the Department of Finance and the Minister of Finance did not take the advice of the Minister of Agriculture and all groups which have already made representations to have Section 31 of the Income Tax Act modified.