

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Ottawa received reports from Royal Canadian Air Force personnel based at Fort Churchill in regard to trips made by the R.C.A.F. to Garry lake in the Northwest Territories on March 22 and May 6 of this year? If so, will the minister table the reports?

**Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, it would be only routine reports which have been received. There was a trip made on March 22 in response to a request from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. An Otter aircraft flew with blood plasma to Chesterfield inlet, where there was a seriously ill native, and subsequently to Baker Lake, where it picked up a Royal Canadian Mounted Police constable and a quantity of food for transportation to Garry lake, and from Garry lake the aircraft returned to Fort Churchill. This is the sort of work the R.C.A.F. are doing continually, and they do not submit any definite report on each trip made.

[Later:]

**Mr. Hardie:** Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of Justice in a position to answer the question I asked him on Saturday last?

**Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked me on Saturday whether the Minister of Justice had received reports from the R.C.M.P. in the field at Baker Lake in regard to the starvation of Eskimos at Garry lake.

The answer, Mr. Speaker, is that the commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police advises me that he has received a number of reports from the non-commissioned officer in charge at Baker Lake concerning this matter. The reports, however, are in the nature of routine reports from a junior officer to his senior, and as such are not the type of reports which it is normal to produce in the house. They are administrative reports.

It is my understanding, however, and I am having this checked, that there is nothing in the reports that would add to or detract in any way from the evidence given by the R.C.M.P. at the coroner's inquest, which was discussed here on the estimates of my colleague the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources on Saturday last.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS****STELCO—FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN STRIKE SETTLEMENT**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. L. Houck (Niagara Falls):** Mr. Speaker, I know this is a matter primarily under provincial jurisdiction, but I should like to ask the Minister of Labour whether he

[Mr. Hardie.]

has been asked to take part in negotiations for the settlement of the Stelco strike?

**Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour):** No, Mr. Speaker, and I do not expect I will be asked.

**FRUIT****BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this is what I would call a spur of the moment question I have not had the opportunity to send the minister notice, but I wish to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of his statement in the house to the effect that he would make an announcement with respect to deficiency payments for the British Columbia tree fruits crop year 1957, can the minister say whether the statement in the press this morning with respect to that question was made by him, and where?

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member is aware, I think, statements as to payments being made under the stabilization act are made by the stabilization board, and they issued a statement yesterday in connection with the payments to be made as far as British Columbia apples are concerned.

**GRAIN****DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS—INQUIRY AS TO DECISION ON WESTERN REPRESENTATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East):** May I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he is in a position to say if the government has yet reached a decision to grant deficiency payments to farmers as requested by the inter-provincial farm union?

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, this is the same question that has been asked here on numerous occasions, and I can only give the same answer. This is a matter which is still under consideration, and when it has been decided an announcement will be made.

**SHIPPING****INQUIRY AS TO USE OF ATOMIC POWERED ICEBREAKERS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. J. McCleave (Halifax):** Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Transport bring the house up to date on his department's consideration of the possible use of atomic powered icebreakers?