

Inquiries of the Ministry

in several countries, has the minister any immediate plans for co-operation with the United Kingdom in defence research?

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me this question is of a type which normally should be answered by way of a statement on motions.

AIR CANADA**STRIKE OF MECHANICS—AIRCRAFT FOR USE OF MEMBERS—PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): My question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the continuing Air Canada strike, will the Prime Minister give consideration to providing government aircraft next week so that members of parliament can attend to their constituency problems?

While the Prime Minister is on his feet, perhaps he can tell the house and the country if there is any sign of a settlement in this strike which is causing so much concern and hardship to the people of this country, notwithstanding the good work being done by regional air carriers.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): On the first point, Mr. Speaker, I first need an opinion as to whether the hon. member is suggesting he act as a strikebreaker.

Mr. McGrath: I made no such suggestion, Mr. Speaker. My suggestion was serious. I want the Prime Minister, because this is Friday and the beginning of a weekend, to give some ray of hope to this house and the country that there is perhaps some sign of settlement. If there is no sign of settlement, will he give consideration to making government aircraft available so that members of parliament may enjoy the same privileges that ministers enjoy in getting back to their constituencies?

[Later:]

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): A supplementary to the question asked by the hon. member for St. John's East. With regard to the matter of strikebreaking, does the Prime Minister consider the Department of Transport was strikebreaking when they extended privileges to other airlines to service our air traffic?

AGRICULTURE**CORN—ACTION TO SUPPORT DOMESTIC PRICE**

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the [Mr. Harkness.]

Minister of Agriculture. Because of the time necessary to implement such a policy, may I ask him if the government has any plan under consideration with regard to excessively low priced imports to prevent the collapse of the price of domestic commercial corn, as was experienced in the last two harvest seasons?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, there were a lot of suggestions and considerations discussed between the federal Department of Agriculture and the provincial Department of Agriculture, bearing in mind some of the responsibility as to where jurisdiction lies for providing legislation toward a solution to these problems. We do not have a specific proposal now to deal with this. As I said on a number of occasions, the major part of the problem arises because of the competition for space during the harvest season.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): A further question to the Minister of Agriculture. Since much of the problem is storage, would the minister give consideration to the request of the National Farmers Union in their brief that a storage policy be established by the government which would assist farmers in this area?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance announced several months ago there would be accelerated depreciation of additional storage. Therefore there is part of a policy involved there now, with regard to storage.

Mr. Gleave: If there is part of a policy, Mr. Speaker, could the minister consider establishing a full policy?

TRANSPORT**CHAPLEAU, ONT.—CLOSING OF PART OF C.P.R. SHOPS**

Mr. Ralph Stewart (Cochrane): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Will the minister consider intervening in a crisis which suddenly developed in Chapleau, Ontario, where the C.P.R. yesterday announced a decision to close a large portion of the shops, thereby giving notice to 66 families that they will have to move to another area? Could the minister ask the C.P.R. to reconsider this decision?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has made a representation which I must assume has been noticed.