

Inquiries of the Ministry

the Minister of Agriculture which arises out of a statement the minister allegedly made in Regina to the effect that the farmer's position today is better than under the previous government. In view of the fact that producers are receiving 12 cents per dozen less for eggs, hog prices are down 5 cents and wheat is down 13 cents to 15 cents a bushel, does the minister consider the position of the farmer to be improved?

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): I can only pass on to the hon. member the d.b.s. figures which indicate that farm gross sales were \$3.5 billion, an all time high, and the net was also at an all time high.

Mr. Smallwood: Will the minister take these prices I have given him today as indicating the position of the farmer instead of bothering with other problems?

Mr. Hays: I appreciate the fact that in certain industries, as a result of a change in the supply and demand situation under which we operate in this country, there are some fluctuations. I remind the hon. member, however, that the price of cheese is greater, the price of milk is greater, the price of canned milk is greater. I could go on and on, but I do not have the time on orders of the day.

[Translation]

Mr. Vincent: Could the minister tell us—
[Text]

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not know why it is, but every time we have a question on agriculture we seem to get into a long debate.

AIR CANADA**WINNIPEG MAINTENANCE BASE—REQUEST FOR
TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question concerning the T.C.A. maintenance base at Winnipeg. On February 17 he indicated that he might be able to table the correspondence between himself and the premier of Quebec. We would particularly like to see the letter from the premier of Quebec which the papers indicate blasted the Prime Minister.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that

this correspondence has been tabled. I think it was tabled a week ago today, but I will check into that.

SEARCH AND RESCUE**INQUIRY AS TO SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR
STUDENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that many university students in Ontario are now seeking summer employment in order to further their education, can the minister tell the house whether his department has decided to hire a number of university students this summer as coordinators in search and rescue work on the great lakes? The minister said he would give consideration to this matter last fall.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): I have not had a report on that matter, but I will inquire of the department and let the hon. gentleman know later.

LABOUR RELATIONS**MARITIME UNION TRUSTEES—REQUEST FOR
TABLING OF REPORTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a two-pronged question to the Minister of Labour arising out of some remarks he made yesterday concerning the report of the maritime union trustees. The minister did express the hope he would be tabling the documents today. I should like to ask, first of all, if he will in fact table the documents today. I should like to ask also if he has come to the conclusion that it would be desirable to table the supplementary report of Mr. Millard so that members of the house would have the advantage of being able to study all the facts as seen by all the trustees prior to the resumption of the hearings of the industrial relations committee.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): The French translation is not ready, and I hope to be able to table the English report early in the week. I think it would be a good idea, if it were the wish of hon. members, to table Mr. Millard's report.