

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[English]

**CANADIAN GRAIN COMMISSION****QUALIFICATIONS OF NEW CHIEF COMMISSIONER—CORRESPONDENCE WITH FORMER CHIEF**

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Is Mr. Delmer Pound, recently appointed Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission, a past president of the Medicine Hat Liberal Association, and is this the main criterion which determined the change in chairmanship?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have serious doubts about the way the question is put. I am sure the hon. member appreciates that.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** Mr. Speaker, because the Canadian Grain Commission is a very important agency in respect of the well-being of the grain trade in western Canada, perhaps I can put the question in such a way that the minister can assure hon. members that the best qualified man has received the appointment. In his search for a replacement for Mr. Hamilton, who was fired by the minister, did the minister consider the wider experience of Manitoba's representative on the Canadian Grain Commission, Mr. Lyn Shuttleworth, both as a farmer and as a Liberal politician?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I was just going to suggest that might be a new question rather than a supplementary. The hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek.

**Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the main purpose of the Canadian Grain Commission is to police the grain trade and in view of the vital importance of the commission to the producers as well as to the industry as a whole, will the Minister of Agriculture, as he promised the other day, table the correspondence between himself and Mr. Hamilton, the ex-chairman of the Board of Grain Commissioners, so that members of the House of Commons can determine whether or not this action was in the interests of the minister politically or those of the industry as a whole?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I advised the right hon. member for Prince Albert that I would table the reply to a letter from Mr. Hamilton if Mr. Hamilton agreed that it ought to be tabled in the House. In so far as the other part of the question is concerned, I invite hon. members opposite to examine the qualifications of all the members of the Canadian Grain Commission. They will find that they are eminently qualified to do that job.

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister not think that it would be simpler to admit that this was a straight case of Liberal patronage?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

[Mr. Pelletier.]

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Hees:** Make it simple. We all know what it is.

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**REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION****NORTH BATTLEFORD—INCLUSION IN INCENTIVES PROGRAM—GRANT TO EXPAND RAPESEED CRUSHING FACILITIES**

**Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley):** Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of a statement by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool that a \$3 million expansion in rapeseed crushing facilities will depend on a federal incentive grant, will the minister extend the regional incentives program to the community of North Battleford so that this city may bid for this plant?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I have not heard anything about this request, but I shall inquire and inform the House of my findings.

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**INDUSTRY****YAMASKA SHIRT COMPANY—ACTION TO AVOID CLOSURE AND LAY-OFF OF EMPLOYEES**

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, I will address my question to the Prime Minister.

In view of a telegram addressed last week to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce by the President of Yamaska Shirt, announcing possible closing down of their Saint-Hyacinthe plant, is any immediate action being considered to prevent discharge of 200 employees as a result of such closing down?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** I have received no communication from the minister in this regard, Mr. Speaker. However, I am sure this matter will receive the same consideration he gives all others brought to his attention.

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[English]

**THE ROYAL FAMILY****SUGGESTED APPOINTMENT OF PRINCE OF WALES AS NEXT GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA**

**Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the forthcoming vacancy in the office of Queen's representative in Canada, will the government give serious consideration to naming a member of the Royal Family, preferably the Prince of Wales who is an inspiration to young people everywhere?