

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—NUMBER OF PROJECTS TO BE TURNED DOWN BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDS

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate to the House how many projects he anticipates will be turned down if he does not receive the increased funds he is asking for and what number of potential jobs is represented by these projects?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the hon. member's question is highly detailed. He is asking for the type of information which I suggest to him should not be sought at this time. In view of the importance of the matter the hon. member might ponder the advisability of having the matter debated at the time of adjournment.

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

BONNYVILLE, ALTA.—ACTION TO ALLEVIATE DISCORD—INVESTIGATION BY LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. In view of the racial strife which has developed in the town of Bonnyville, Alberta, over the implementation of certain segments of the Official Languages Act, is the minister planning any action to help alleviate this unhealthy situation?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat surprised that the hon. member should say the problem at Bonnyville resulted from application of the Official Languages Act. There is indeed some possibility that Bonnyville, like several other localities, might become a bilingual district, but it is not now part of a bilingual district since no bilingual district under the Official Languages Act has yet been established, and most probably none will be established until midsummer.

[English]

Mr. Yewchuk: In spite of the minister's answer there still is great difficulty, and I wonder whether he would be in favour of asking the language commissioner to investigate and report on the problem?

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I should need to check the act on that point. I believe that any citizen has the right to ask for the help of the Official Languages Commissioner. I wonder, however, if the Secretary of State would not be the only citizen without the privilege of invoking this right.

[English]

Mr. Yewchuk: I would like clarification of the first part of the minister's answer. Can he indicate when he expects this will officially become a bilingual district?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question should be placed on the order paper.

Inquiries of the Ministry

GRAIN

POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF RYE, FLAX AND RAPESEED UNDER WHEAT BOARD—MEANING OF STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): May I address a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board in view of his statement in a release dated April 21, 1971 referring to the decision to bring rye, flax and rapeseed under the Canadian Wheat Board. He said:

This is a wrong interpretation and I can only say at this point that the government has taken no decisions to change the present marketing system for rapeseed or any other grain.

Does this mean that the minister is not going to proceed with the bill to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act or that he is going to withdraw it? Do we put this interpretation on the statement he made?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, it would certainly be wrong to put that interpretation on the statement instead of the plain interpretation which is that the clause in the legislation is simply enabling legislation and that no decision has been made to make use of that power.

Mr. Gleave: May I then ask the minister, since he has stated he does not intend to put any teeth in this section, whether he is satisfied with the manner in which the rapeseed market has been operating?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt whether the question as asked is in order. The hon. member has asked whether the minister is satisfied with a situation and in this respect the question is not acceptable.

POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF RYE, FLAX AND RAPESEED UNDER WHEAT BOARD—HOLDING OF PLEBISCITE

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): A supplementary question. May I ask the minister whether, before he puts any teeth in the legislation, he proposes taking a plebiscite to give him the necessary teeth?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I made it clear that no move would be taken in regard to the marketing system unless it were with the fullest support of the producers who are most directly involved. I have said nothing about the form of ascertaining that approval or support although I am conscious of the fact that the oilseeds marketing committee, in making its recommendations to me some months ago, did indicate that a plebiscite was an appropriate route.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

NEWFOUNDLAND—ACTION ON PROJECTS

Mr. Ambrose Hubert Peddle (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador): My question is directed to the Minister of