

*Oral Questions***AGRICULTURE**

## PLANTING OF UNLICENSED SEMI-DWARF WHEAT

**Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture I will direct my question to his Parliamentary Secretary. I sent notice of this question to the Minister's office some time ago. I hope he has received some briefing on it.

The Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board has estimated that over two million acres will be seeded this year to the unlicensed, short-strawed semi-dwarf wheat varieties. Since these varieties are not licensed for use in Canada, and cannot be imported into Canada, will the Parliamentary Secretary tell the House where the seed will come from for this crop and how it will get into the country?

[Translation]

**Mr. Pierre Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I take note of the question of my colleague and I can assure him that I will convey his remarks not only to the Minister of Agriculture, but also to the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board.

[English]

## IMPORTATION OF SEED

**Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Parliamentary Secretary could refer the rest of the question to the Minister of Agriculture who is in charge of this particular aspect of our law. Have any charges been laid for illegal importation of seed in the past? Will there be charges laid in the future to make certain that importers comply with the laws of the country?

[Translation]

**Mr. Pierre Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture):** I noted the question, Mr. Speaker, and my colleague may rest assured that he will have an answer at the earliest opportunity.

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**HEALTH**

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, on April 17 of this year, the Minister met with representatives of the Quebec Federation of Committees of urea formaldehyde foam victims, and according to newspaper reports and comments I received from these people following that meeting, they were very disappointed. Today, *Le Devoir* reported some very important information, namely that a clinical study had been made of 75 children examined at Sainte-Justine Hospital. Dr. Jacques Lacroix revealed that an abnormally high percentage—65 per cent—of these children

who had been in contact with UFFI had suffered from headaches, emphysema and similar disorders.

I would like to know whether as a result of this new medical study, the Minister intends to ask the Minister of Finance to reallocate funding for scientific research, because we must not forget that our children's lives are at stake.

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Hon. Member that we have been informed of the latest findings concerning the health of these children. I shall be completing our analysis of the facts on urea formaldehyde foam, and I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that we will do everything that is necessary to protect the health of Canadian citizens.

● (1500)

**Mr. Malépart:** Mr. Speaker, as the spokespersons for the Federation remarked, it has been seven months since they gave you the facts, and considering the results of this study and the very real threat to our children's health, I do not think we can afford to wait another seven months. Could the Minister give the House the assurance, here and now, that he will obtain additional funding for scientific research to study the health problems of these people?

**Mr. Côté (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I repeat that we shall be completing our analysis of the facts and we will take action as soon as possible, in the interests of all Canadians.

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[English]

**CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORT**

## POSTAL SERVICE IN SASKATOON

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the Petition presented by the Hon. Member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ravis) on Wednesday, May 1, 1985, meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

I am also in receipt of a Question of Privilege.

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**PRIVILEGE**

## PARLIAMENT HILL DEMONSTRATIONS—REGULATIONS

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** Mr. Speaker, when I raised this matter of privilege yesterday, I was provoked specifically by what appeared to be a double standard in enforcing regulations on Parliament Hill as between Members of Parliament and other citizens of Canada. I have had a chance to look at some of the precedents.

I believe there are matters of freedom of expression and freedom of contact with Members of Parliament which are perhaps more appropriately raised here than the matters of the