

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Lang: As is well known, these two subjects have absolutely nothing to do with stabilization per se.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

ACTION TO PERMIT FREE MOVEMENT OF FEED GRAINS
BETWEEN PROVINCES WITHIN DESIGNATED WHEAT
BOARD AREA

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): I should like to direct my question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. Has his department given consideration or is it giving consideration to adopting a policy to permit the free movement of feed grains between provinces within the designated Wheat Board area of western Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): We have certainly looked into this question from time to time fairly intensively, but at present there is no intention to make any change.

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[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary to the President of the Privy Council.

As the House has now devoted many days to studying the interests of wheat producers, would it not be fair to discuss the situation of other producers before resuming the debate on Bill C-244?

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[English]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

FUNDS TO BE SPENT IN QUEBEC CITY AREA

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): My question is for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of indications that not all funds allocated for job-creating projects are being spent, such as for urban renewal in Montreal as stated by another minister recently, would the minister inform the House what amount of money is to be spent over a two-year period in the area of Quebec City for the renewal of historic buildings, expressways, ski resorts and other projects, and would the minister consider tabling a comprehensive report on actual and projected expenditures under the special—

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

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AGRICULTURE

EGGS—INQUIRY AS TO DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Would he answer today the question I asked him on Tuesday, which he said he would answer yesterday, having to do with whether or not there

[Mr. Baldwin.]

is any payment due to producers of eggs under the deficiency payment program, the assessment period for which ended at the end of September?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): May I say very briefly with respect to this matter that the mandatory support price, that is, 80 per cent of the previous ten year average, is 28.6 cents per dozen on the basis of grade A large. The cumulative average for the 1970-71 year is 30.4 cents, in other words, 85 per cent of the mandatory support level.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to bring to the attention of hon. members that the question period has expired. Perhaps the hon. member might be allowed a supplementary and then we will call orders of the day.

Mr. McKinley: In view of what the minister has said and the disastrous prices still in effect for eggs, would he advise whether or not the Agricultural Products Board is considering a fowl buying program and, if so, how soon will it be announced?

Mr. Olson: No, but the hon. member will recall that we did have an egg purchasing program earlier this year when we took 50,000 30-dozen cases of eggs off the market. If we had been assured that there would be a corresponding cutback in production so that there would not be a surplus in the marketplace again, we probably would have gone farther with that program.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps in fairness the Chair should recognize the hon. member for Fraser Valley West before we call orders of the day.

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PENITENTIARIES

POSSIBLE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
BENEFITS TO INMATES

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Labour. In light of the Solicitor General's recent statement on motions regarding in part the payment of the federal minimum wage to correction institution inmates, would the minister say whether he has considered or reached any decision regarding unemployment insurance deductions from the minimum wage so that upon release of inmates a better economic base might prevail for their re-establishment, since the new act does not seem to provide the same kind of security benefits as the former act did?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Provided the Solicitor General introduces his very enlightened policy of rehabilitation of inmates of penitentiaries and provides them with the minimum wage of \$1.75 subject to the normal deductions of income tax, etc., I would be very much in favour of the concept that unemployment insurance contributions be deducted so that on release of an inmate he would be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits as are other Canadians if unemployed.

Mr. Rose: Would the minister indicate to the House whether he would use his good offices to persuade the government to institute such a scheme?