

Canada. How quickly we can rectify the situation I do not know, and I do not believe anyone knows. However, so far as we are concerned there is this great difference between what producers of agricultural livestock and poultry have to pay for this protein in Canada and what the United States producers have to pay who are in direct competition with Canadian producers.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I think I must bring to the attention of hon. members that we are running short of time. A number of members are waiting to ask questions, and with the situation in the House this afternoon I was hoping all hon. members to my left who wished to ask questions might be permitted to do so. It seems that perhaps the members in the fourth and fifth rows will not have an opportunity unless we limit supplementaries.

**Mr. McKinley:** Mr. Speaker, the minister suggested what he would like to see done in this regard. I should like him to tell the House what he is doing specifically to rectify this situation?

**Mr. Whelan:** I would like to get some suggestions from the opposition, if they have any, rather than have them just tell me to do something, because we certainly have programs which we can initiate but it would take tax dollars to do this.

PROTEIN FEEDS—SUGGESTION CANADIAN POLICY  
DEPENDENT ON UNITED STATES POLICY—GOVERNMENT  
POSITION

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary to the question asked by the hon. member for Assiniboia. I wish to ask the Minister of Agriculture, in view of the fact that an official of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce some time ago said, that the Canadian government and the Department of Agriculture were awaiting a policy development by the United States before they took a definite stand on agricultural policy in Canada, are the government and his department still awaiting the development of United States policy before Canada takes a stand in this House?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Well, I think we are dependent on the United States for protein because, to a great extent, it comes from the United States. Whatever they do has an effect on our situation here. I visited the United States in February and one of the questions we asked was whether they intended to freeze the price of protein or whether they intended to restrict supplies. At that time they had no intention of restricting supply because they thought they had an ample supply for all their world customers, including Canada. The situation changed later, and has changed again just recently. I think it is too soon to say how quickly the prices will level off or where the program will go from here.

Oral Questions  
HISTORIC SITES

ALLEGED PROHIBITION OF MEMBERS FROM  
PARTICIPATING IN CEREMONY COMMEMORATING OLD  
STONE MILL IN VILLAGE OF DELTA

**Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development arising out of the ceremony commemorating the Old Stone Mill as a national historic site in my riding in the village of Delta last Saturday, July 21. Will the minister tell the House whether instructions were given to his department and by whom that the federal member for Leeds, the provincial member for Leeds and the local municipal reeve were to be prohibited from taking part in the commemoration ceremony on the ground that they are members of the Progressive Conservative Party?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge no such guideline has been given. I know that several times during the past weeks, under similar circumstances, some members opposite wrote to tell me that they had been very well received by my staff.

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[English]

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO RAILWAY  
ACCIDENTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport and his parliamentary secretary may I ask the Prime Minister, in light of the disastrous rail accidents in the last few days, whether he would use his very real powers of persuasion with the Minister of Transport to immediately institute a public inquiry into rail accidents in Canada.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a representation. The hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre.

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THE MINT

POSSIBILITY OF DUPLICATE COIN PRESSES IN WINNIPEG  
AND OTTAWA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Supply and Services. Would the minister inquire whether there will be coin presses for both Winnipeg and Ottawa and whether in fact there will be duplicates of equipment.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, I would be surprised, but I will surely inquire.