

Inquiries of the Ministry

influence over, or responsibility for the safety standards on that line?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for having given me notice of his intention to ask this question. However, I fear I did not have sufficient time to get an answer to it. I would like to examine it from a legal point of view, because clearly the answer is not the type that should be given without getting all of the details first.

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GRAIN**RAPSEED—STOP ORDER ON DELIVERY OF VARIETIES
LOW IN ERUCIC ACID**

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the stop order placed on the delivery of low erucic acid varieties of rapeseed, which quality was to have been a promotional feature for this seed, can the minister give any indication why this has occurred and when deliveries may be normalized?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Wheat Board reacted to the request of the industry expressed by the Canadian Rapeseed Growers Association which indicated that excessive delivery of low erucic acid rapeseed at the early stage of the year, compared with the later stages of the year, might cause difficulties in the use of that seed in the preparation of oil of uneven quality over the year and that it would be much more satisfactory if the flow of the low erucic acid type were more steady. As a result the board temporarily lowered the quota on that particular kind of rapeseed although, as I understand it, they have no difficulty in assuring that eventually during the crop year the quota will permit the taking of the whole crop of low erucic rapeseed.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**EFFECT OF UNITED STATES IMPORT SURTAX—
EXTENSION OF CREDIT TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND
FARMERS AFFECTED**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of reports that the United States import surtax is not to be lifted so far as Canada is concerned, is the government considering urging Canadian financial institutions to extend credit to firms which are affected by this surcharge and, in particular, to extend credit to small businesses and farmers?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): I thank the hon. gentleman for the suggestion, Mr. Speaker. I think it is a reasonable one, and it is an approach that we would certainly encourage.

[Mr. Mather.]

• (12:20 p.m.)

OIL**PROPOSED TAPS TANKER ROUTE—REPLY BY UNITED
STATES TO CANADIAN REPRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question concerning his letter to the Secretary of State of the United States, with which he enclosed a copy of the report of the Special Committee on the environment. Could the minister indicate if he has had a reply from his American counterpart? Could he give the nature of that reply and, considering the very urgent situation, would he not obtain permission to table it?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there has been no reply. I have followed up the communications I have had with the Secretary of State and he has assured me that our recommendations, particularly in relation to the Strait of Juan de Fuca and so on, are under study. Of course, no decision has yet been made because no decision has been made even about the TAPS line itself. As I say, I do not think there is anything more I can add. There are no other documents.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the House might allow the hon. member for Fraser Valley West to ask a supplementary to the previous question. We reached the end of the question period a while ago but I thought the House would want the Chair to prolong the agony for a few minutes because of the time spent on a very interesting point of order. Having said that, I should like to recognize the hon. member for Fraser Valley West on a supplementary question.

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FRUIT**REQUEST BY BRITISH COLUMBIA GROWERS FOR EXPORT
ASSISTANCE—LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AGAINST
DUMPING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): I wonder if I could direct my agony in the form of a supplementary question. It is related to one asked a moment ago by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce or someone who might reply for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the difficulties faced by the Canadian apple industry as a result of the U.S. surcharge and also a poor apple crop this year, has the government made a decision yet on the request by the British Columbia tree fruit growers for \$66,000 in export assistance similar to that contemplated for industries in Bill C-262?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to look into it if I am the one who is supposed to do so. As the hon. member knows, any processing of apples will be covered by the bill which is presently in committee. I shall look at other aspects of the question and answer as soon as I can.