

[Later:]

[English]

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): I have a supplementary question for the minister responsible for the Post Office. Was it absolutely necessary to compose the individual postal codes from a mixture of letters and numerals when it is commonly known that straight numerals are easier to remember?

An hon. Member: Oh, I don't know about that.

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question is clearly debate or argument. I suggest to the hon. member that the question is not in order.

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AGRICULTURE

USE OF IMPORTS AS PRICE REGULATOR GOVERNING DOMESTIC PRODUCTION

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture. Will the minister give the House the assurance that the government will not use the importation of agricultural products as a price regulator governing future domestic production?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): The implications of that question are far wider than can be covered in a reply during the question period, Mr. Speaker. I would need further definition of what the connotation of some of the words used might be.

ONTARIO—DUMPING AND FREE DISTRIBUTION OF PRODUCE—REVIEW OF POLICY OR USE OF MARKETING BILL TO CORRECT SITUATION

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture. Since Ontario farmers are in some cases dumping their produce and in other cases distributing their produce free in order to direct public attention to the lack of adequate returns to food producers, may I ask whether the government is reviewing its basic agriculture policy or whether it intends to continue to rely on Bill C-176 as the main instrument to correct this hardship?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): I am not sure there is any relationship between Bill C-176 and some of the practices referred to. I might say I do not believe this dumping or free distribution is going on in a significant way. There are some local quota problems, and we certainly want to look into them.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might have another 30 seconds in which to correct an answer I gave yesterday?

Mr. Speaker: It could be done only with the unanimous consent of the House because the question period has expired. I suggest that the matter raised by the hon. member for Kent-Essex might be continued next week, but the minister needs the unanimous consent of the House to make a correction at this time.

Mr. Baldwin: Do it tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: There is not consent. Orders of the day.

24081—47

Yukon Minerals Act

• (11:50 a.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

YUKON MINERALS ACT

ADMINISTRATION, ACQUISITION AND RECORDING OF CLAIMS, ETC.

The House resumed, from Thursday, April 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Chrétien that Bill C-187, respecting minerals in the Yukon Territory, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, this debate has been proceeding now over the past several months and in order to refresh my memory I have been reviewing the *Hansard* report of the debate. Before commenting directly on some of the statements made by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien), I should like to point out that actually this discussion has been going on for much longer than the past several months. This is a subject that has been debated for a number of decades. For example, I can recall in the mid 1950's the then member for the Yukon, supporting the Liberal government of the day, was taking strong exception to the principle of the bill that is once more, in substance, before this House. He was speaking on behalf of the people he represented in the Yukon Territory. I refer to Mr. Aubrey Simmons, who so effectively dealt with the matter at that time that the bill was set aside. Now, once again it is reappearing today in much the same terms as the bill that was discussed during those controversial days in the mid 1950's.

As a former minister of the department—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has been looking pleadingly in the direction of the Chair for the last few minutes. I think the time has finally come to bring to the attention of the members of the House that the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) has the floor and is attempting to make a very interesting speech. Those who are interested in following his remarks, as they are anxious to do, are having some difficulty.

Mr. Dinsdale: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The grand exodus that follows the question period when Orders of the Day are called always creates a momentary disturbance. However, I feel the matter before the House is so important that I should put my introductory statement before the House, because it should be noted that this is not a piece of legislation that has suddenly emerged but rather one that has been under discussion for many years. It appeared once before and was strongly opposed, as I have said, by the then member for Yukon.

As I was saying when Your Honour so kindly intervened in order to assure the attention of the members of the House, this matter was under discussion when I had the privilege of having ministerial responsibility. The reason no action was taken at that time is precisely the reason that was put forward by the former member for Yukon and put forward once again by the present member for