

town with the main highway has been completely destroyed, has the Prime Minister received any request from the premier of that province for special disaster funds to aid in repairing the damage to this and other flooded areas in the province?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I have not yet received such a request but I will check with my office to see whether any comes in.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING BILL—APPLICATION TO GROUPS OF PRODUCERS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Agriculture a question which is very important in the eyes of farmers.

In recognition of the serious concerns which are felt by most farmers' groups with respect to the implications of Bill C-176, is the minister in a position to assure us that no marketing agency for a specific agricultural product will be established unless it has been approved by the absolute majority of the producers involved?

[English]

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): The selection of the officers and directors of the specific commodity boards will follow the agreements that are made between the federal and provincial governments because obviously these agencies will be administering delegated legislation from both levels of government. Therefore I cannot say in advance what those agreements will be.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I was going to direct a question to the Secretary of State but because of the urgency I will address it to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the President of the Canadian Citizenship Federation hopes to have a museum to record files and treasures of the ethnic groups of Canada—"Germaphones", "Ukraphones", "Polophones" and all other groups that belong to our multicultural society—would the Prime Minister please consider Mr. Casimir Stanczykowski's ethnic multicultural movement and make it a part of the National Arts Centre?

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STATUS OF WOMEN

DESIGNATION OF MINISTER TO STUDY COMMISSION REPORT

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. May I ask whether it is the intention of the government to designate a minister to be responsible for studying the

23966-6

Business of the House

report on the status of women with a view to implementing its federal recommendations?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): It is not the responsibility of any one minister designated yet, Mr. Speaker; it is a responsibility of the cabinet.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. Perhaps the House would allow the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway a supplementary.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): I should like to address a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. In view of the very great interest of the large women's organizations across the country who are writing letters in considerable numbers, could the Prime Minister give a date when someone in the cabinet will be designated to be in charge of this report and its implementation?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised that the hon. member is suggesting that we downgrade the report to the level of one minister. I say the full cabinet is concerned with it.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. The hon. member for St. John's East rises on a point of order.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

SITTING OF STANDING COMMITTEES WHILE GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to rise on a point of order regarding the business of the House. My point of order refers to the meetings today of the Standing Committees of the House. This happens to be one of the inactive days so far as committees are concerned because only five committees are meeting. My point of order is based on the fact that three of those committees are meeting at 3.30 p.m. at a time when this House is going into Committee of the Whole to examine Bill C-207. Mr. Speaker, the government organization bill is of interest to every member of the House—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McGrath:—and the fact that the House is going into Committee of the Whole, which by its very name implies it is a Committee of the Whole House, would suggest that this would preclude any Standing Committee of the House from meeting at the same time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I find myself in a little bit of quandary—

An hon. Member: That is nothing new!

Mr. McGrath: I hope the trained seals on the other side who have no interest in this institution will restrain