

cent more than what the farmers originally paid, will the minister indicate whether he will make a statement in the House concerning this situation?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): I will be pleased to check with Crown Assets Disposal Corporation to find out what the situation is and will then decide whether or not to make a statement.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

TEXTILES—POLICY OF COMMISSION—CONSULTATIONS RESPECTING IMPORTS

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

In view of the overwhelming importance taken by imports in the textile industry and in view of the recent announcement by the minister about a new textile commission, I wish to ask the minister whether he went into consultations with executives of Canadian textile industries or if this action stems merely from a unilateral initiative on the part of the government?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the new textile policy is the result of an inquiry which has been underway for 18 months. During this period, consultations were held with all interested parties, including management, labour and provincial authorities. I believe there is no question about it; everybody agrees that a maximum of consultations were held.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Could he tell us whether those consultations have taken place during the 18 months in order to inform the members on the attitude of the leaders of the industries concerned towards the textile problems?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, a statement on the textile policy was made in this House in May last. Certain administrative measures have already been taken and announced, including the establishment of a commission. Yesterday, the President of the Privy Council tabled a bill on textiles. This policy is therefore in the process of being completed.

In so far as the attitude of business leaders and unions towards the policy is concerned, I believe they have complete freedom to express their views. A majority of those who have done so up to now said that they felt the policy had much merit, but that before making a definite assessment they would wait until the results are known.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

AGRICULTURE

TREE FRUIT INDUSTRY—MEASURES TO ARREST VIRUS INFECTION

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question raised yesterday by the hon. member for Kent-Essex, I am advised that the representations received by the department had to do with bacterial diseases of fruit trees, field crops, vegetable crops, and greenhouse crops. Five plant pathologists are presently on staff at the research station at Harrow to help meet these and other problems. The department is in the process of assigning another plant pathologist to the Harrow staff to work on bacterial problems of vegetables and fruits.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

QUEBEC—ALLEGED GUERRILLA TRAINING CAMPS

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Has the government been able to locate any of the guerilla training camps supposedly in the Quebec interior and, if so, what action has been taken? Were any arrests made in this connection?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): I will be pleased to see what we may be able to discover in this regard, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

INCREASE IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA GAS RATES—INVESTIGATION BY PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Is the Prices and Incomes Commission planning to investigate a pending 13 per cent increase in gas rates for southern Alberta customers of Canadian Western Natural Gas Company Limited, which is admittedly beyond any cost justification?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that particular announcement. The Prices and Incomes Commission is examining a number of gasoline and oil price increases. I will have to inquire whether the commission is studying that particular increase.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Frank Moores (Bonavista-Trinity-Conception): My question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Was the