

them in the same position as those who fought successfully against the orders that were made?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, last Friday the Supreme Court handed down a judgment and the officials of the Department of Justice and of my department are now studying it. I will certainly have comments to make in the House as soon as a policy has been established following the judgment of the Supreme Court.

[*English*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the government cannot do this kind of thing. I ask the minister whether in view of this judgment, important in trimming down bureaucratic tyranny, the government will now give consideration to the orders respecting shack camps and temporary habitations in the national parks so that these places will not be subject to the orders which have been made during the past two years?

Mr. Chrétien: I should like to point out to the right hon. gentleman that the order in council relating to this matter of perpetual leases was passed by his own government. We are studying the matter now in all its aspects.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. If the hon. gentleman was endeavouring to make a statement precisely opposite to the truth, he succeeded admirably today.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

TRANSPORT

CESSATION OF RAILWAY PASSENGER SERVICE IN WESTERN ONTARIO

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. I see he is not in his place today, though he is supposed to be here, and neither is the Minister of Supply and Services who sometimes answers for him.

Some hon. Members: Author!

Mr. Noble: I should like to make an apology. I have just been told that the minister's brother has died. Perhaps I can direct my question to the Prime Minister and he can take it as notice. Has the Minister of Transport received letters or briefs protesting a

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threatened cessation of railway passenger service over a wide area of western Ontario, and will he use his good offices to have the service maintained until a thorough assessment of the situation can be made by the people concerned and by the transport department?

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): I will see that the question is conveyed to the minister responsible and that the hon. member is notified of the information we have.

GRAIN

WHEAT—SUGGESTED WITHDRAWAL OR ALTERATION OF ACREAGE REDUC- TION PROGRAM

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): I have a question for the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. Having regard to the widespread opinion among western farmers that the "lift" program will be largely ineffective would the minister consider withdrawing this plan either in whole or in part or making major alterations to it?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Certainly not. I believe the hon. member is altogether wrong in his assumption that farmers will not participate in this program. In my view there will be significant participation leading to a reduction in wheat acreage. This is very important in view of the fact that a recent report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics indicates there might have been too great a switch into other grains.

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): Bearing in mind the situation of farmers who have already diversified and reduced wheat acreage, and the fact that farmers on one section or less would suffer severe loss of income under the proposed acreage reduction program, would the minister revamp this program in order that the quota might be more realistic in these cases?

Mr. Speaker: Order. It seems to me the hon. member's supplementary is essentially a repetition of the original question.

WHEAT—PUBLISHING OF ACREAGE REDUC- TION PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): In view of the fact that the acreage reduction program as a whole is not being accepted by the farmers, and since there is a great deal of confusion about the regulations governing it, despite the nearness of the planting season,