

scheduled for April 21 and I look forward to it. I share, and the Government shares, the deep-seated concerns of the native people themselves. We want to work hand in glove with them to resolve any outstanding questions. However, I do not think the Indians' cause or the cause of accuracy or justice is served by the Hon. Member resorting to the kind of question that he just put on the record of the House of Commons.

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF WASTE REMOVAL

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of the Environment and also concerns the situation in the community of Kitchenuhmaykoosib, known in English as Big Trout Lake.

The Minister should be the foremost protector of Canadians in hazardous situations caused by—

Mr. Speaker: Given the time, I ask Hon. Members to put their questions as directly as they can.

Mr. Parry: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to give the community of Big Trout Lake the assurance that those wastes will be moved from the community at the first possible opportunity?

Hon. Tom McMillan (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I think it should be acknowledged, and I believe the Hon. Member would be the first to do so, that while government authorities have detected higher than normal levels of PCBs in blood samples from some of the Indians in question, no one, least of all the Government, knows the primary source of the PCBs. We have a particular situation concerning one capacitor, but that is clearly not the source of the problem. The source resides elsewhere. We are eager to work with the Indians to identify the real source. It is not evident to anyone.

REQUEST THAT MINISTER MEET PROVINCIAL COUNTERPART

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to meet with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment to co-ordinate the identification of the sources of waste that the Hon. Member for Cochrane—Superior mentioned, and their removal as soon as is practicable?

Hon. Tom McMillan (Minister of the Environment): Yes, Mr. Speaker. If he is referring to the capacitor, we already sought from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment the relevant authority to remove the capacitor. In the meantime the Indians in question stole the capacitor, now have it, and we are trying to retrieve it because it does pose a danger to them when not handled by professionals.

As to the other sources of PCBs, we have been working with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and different Departments at the federal level have been working with one another. Together we are eager to work with the Indians themselves.

Oral Questions

HORTICULTURE

IMPORTATION OF SOUR CHERRIES FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture who knows of the more than average difficulties with which the fruit growers of this country are faced. For example, last year our sour cherry producers were up in arms because they were hurt by provisions of the Canada Agricultural Products Standards Act which allowed an over-generous importation of sour cherries from the U.S. to this country.

Can the Minister give some hope to the fruit growers of this country as they look to this year's cherry harvest, and introduce the amendments he proposed last year to the CAPS Act?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the Hon. Member's question. I also appreciate the continuing representations that the Hon. Member for St. Catharines and other members of the government caucus have made on this subject.

The record will indicate very clearly and without exception that when this Government makes promises to the agriculture industry, it keeps them.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wise: When we make commitments, we keep them. I can clearly indicate to the Hon. Member on this specific issue that we fully intend to keep this commitment as well. In fact, we could be in a position as early as next week to introduce those amendments. With co-operation from Members opposite we could have them within a week or 10 days.

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VISIBLE MINORITIES

JAPANESE CANADIANS INTERNED DURING WORLD WAR II— MINISTER'S MEETING WITH DELEGATION

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Multiculturalism and concerns the emotional issue of Japanese Canadian redress. I would first like to wish the Minister well in his new responsibilities, particularly in dealing with this issue.

A few moments ago the Minister participated, as did I, in a very moving meeting organized on Parliament Hill by the National Association of Japanese Canadians to move the Government towards a solution and overcome the lack of a proper and legitimate negotiating process that would give justice a chance. Given that the Minister told the delegation that his door is open, can he inform this House that the door is open to a commitment to ongoing negotiations so that we avoid