

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Bell: May I rephrase my question? Are these strategic places mentioned by the minister on October 16 as identified in the Senate, namely, the CBC, radio, press and education?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I do not think that I identified the places. If some did, they could give some explanations to the hon. member.

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[English]

GRAIN**PROPOSAL FOR PRODUCTION AND RECEIPTS POLICY**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): I wish to direct my question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In light of the document the minister tabled earlier today, has the government decided to implement any of the proposals in the document, or is it to be considered as a white paper and that they are proposals only?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, my purpose in tabling the document was to allow the producer organizations a further opportunity for discussion. As the document reveals, there are a good number of details in the program to be settled. As we go forward, we hope the discussions with producer organizations, the various provincial Ministers of Agriculture and others will lead to completion of the details of the program.

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HEALTH**MEDICARE—DISCUSSION OF COST SHARING FOR PARAMEDICAL SERVICES AT CONFERENCE WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS**

Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will the minister advise the House if in his forthcoming meetings with his provincial counterparts he will be discussing the whole subject of cost-sharing for paramedical services under medicare?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I am advised, Mr. Speaker, that this matter will be raised by the provincial ministers for discussion at that conference. Whether it will cover the entire range of paramedical services is not known at this time, but certainly many aspects of it.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate the fact that the hon. member wants to ask a supplementary. I have intervened during the last two or three questions to suggest that we should not have supplementaries because

[Mr. Speaker.]

there are only four or five minutes remaining in the question period. Perhaps the hon. member can ask his supplementary and I will then return to the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre who was denied a supplementary a few moments ago. We will try to get on as quickly as we can.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Will the minister advise the House which services will be discussed?

Mr. Munro: I would advise the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, that the agenda is still in a tentative stage. We are trying to arrive at some agreement with the provinces as to what items will be discussed. It seems quite definite that this area will be discussed, with special emphasis, no doubt, on optometry.

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GRAIN**PROPOSAL FOR PRODUCTION AND RECEIPTS POLICY**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Does the minister in charge of the Wheat Board have in mind any scheduled time for discussions on the document he tabled today? What is the latest date for his making an announcement to the House on the decisions the government has made?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I cannot set forth a precise timetable, but we do consider the matter of some urgency and we will find it very important to move toward the legislative stage on these proposals, many of which require legislation to put them into force.

BARLEY—AMOUNT OF FINAL PAYMENT TO FARMERS

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): I have a question for the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. On October 6 I ask the minister if he would consider the possibility of forecasting the final payment for barley in view of the concern in western Canada as to how and when the farmers should market this product. I appreciate the concern of the minister at that time. He promised me he would study the matter to see whether he could ascertain a reliable forecast as to what the final payment would be. Is he now in a position to give the House the benefit of his wisdom in that regard?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): What I indicated was that I would be willing to look at the question to see whether in fact an earlier date could be selected for any such forecast. I am sorry to say I am no farther ahead at this stage.

Mr. Horner: A supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Order. As there are only two or three minutes remaining in the question period, I wonder whether the hon. member would mind if other members were permitted to ask questions?