

Oral Questions

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

EFFECT OF LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE ON SUPPLY OF FEED GRAIN—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Yves Caron (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Agriculture another question concerning the feed grain supply problems resulting from the longshoremen's strikes in the Montreal, Trois-Rivières and Quebec City harbours.

A while ago, a number of questions were asked. Following inquiry, there is no more feed grain in the Quebec City harbour. Can the minister advise the House of any new developments, so that farm producers in the Quebec area may not be victimized by this situation?

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the situation is not any different. As I said before, I am waiting for an up to date report from my officials and officials of the feed board. As soon as I have that, I shall let hon. members interested know.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED AGREEMENT CANADA WOULD NOT RETALIATE FOR BOARDING OF "GREENPEACE III" BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES

Mr. Stuart Leggett (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. A report this morning indicated that the French admiral in charge of the operations of a nuclear test in the Pacific was given the assurance that in the event of the boarding of the Canadian vessel Greenpeace III there would be no retaliation by Canadian authorities. Would the minister advise the House whether he is conducting an inquiry into this very serious allegation of connivance?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I heard the same report and I have asked for information on this point.

Mr. Leggett: Is the minister in a position, as a result of this inquiry, to advise this House that Canadian authorities have not in any way conspired or connived in this act of piracy by the French government?

Mr. MacEachen: I will be happy to give the hon. member the information once I receive it and will make any statements that are justified in the circumstances.

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PUBLIC WORKS

REPORT ON IMPROVEMENT OF NAVIGATION ON OTTAWA RIVER FOR PLEASURE CRAFT—DATE OF COMPLETION AND TABLING

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): My question is for the Minister of Public Works and it is one of which I have given him notice. In view of the fact on July

[Mr. Richardson.]

13, 1973, the Department of Public Works awarded to Pluritec, consulting engineers, a contract to evaluate the costs of enhancing pleasure craft navigation on the Ottawa river west of Ottawa, can the minister now report whether or not that report has been completed, whether he can table it, and whether the government has made any decisions based on that report?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the report, and not having seen the report, I do not yet know whether or not it would be customary to table it. I will be glad to look into it and advise the hon. gentleman.

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THE PERFORMING ARTS

GRANT TO COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL IN VANCOUVER—REASON FOR CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the announcement last week in Vancouver by the minister and the other member of the cabinet from British Columbia of a federal government grant of one third of a million dollars to the community music school in Vancouver, and in view of the announcement two months ago by the Secretary of State that the school did not fit the criteria for grants, in spite of efforts to assist by members on both sides of the House, can the minister tell the House what special influence the two cabinet ministers from British Columbia were able to exert in order to reverse the cabinet decision—

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Beautiful!

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):—announced by the Secretary of State, and why he and his cabinet colleague from British Columbia did not display their influence sooner?

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MANPOWER

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM AND SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS—POSSIBLE DECREASE IN FUNDS

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, and it is really supplementary to a number of questions which were asked earlier. In light of the fact that unemployment in March of this year among Canadians under 25 is already 4 per cent higher than that at this time last year and promises to worsen before the summer, does the government intend to reconsider its decision to freeze its budget for student summer employment and decrease the money allocated for this year's Opportunity for Youth Program?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I expect to make an announcement very shortly.