

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

GRAIN**REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF PLAN FOR
RATIONALIZATION OF HANDLING AND
TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. Is the minister able to say what position he has taken with regard to tabling or making public the grain handling and transportation studies which I believe he is supervising?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): As I said a few days ago when this question was last raised in the House, I had in mind further discussion at the official level with some of the interested provincial governments who have the reports and have been studying them. I consider this the next step before any decisions are taken with respect to this study area.

Mr. Burton: Since the contents of the report have been made available to the railway companies and the grain handling companies, does the minister not consider that farmers should have access to this information as well?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question as asked is argument. It is debate.

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TRADE**DUTCH STARCH—ALLEGED DUMPING IN CANADA**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Revenue. Has the hon. gentleman taken any action to inquire into allegations in the press that Dutch starch is being dumped in Canada and underselling competitors in a market which is an important one for certain types of potatoes?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue): I will take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

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MANPOWER**JOB VACANCY SURVEY—POSSIBLE USE BY DEPARTMENT**

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration having to do with a question asked earlier. Has the hon. gentleman's department any special plan to make use of the recommendations contained in the job vacancy survey which was released a few days ago and which cost about \$2.5 million to prepare?

Hon. Otto Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): The job vacancy survey which was released the other day is the first firm result of some very important work done by Statistics Canada for my department in an attempt to evaluate the job situation, the job demand situation, in Canada. The results of this work are being

used within the department in a variety of ways. We are very pleased indeed that this information is now available in a form which is sufficiently satisfactory to enable it to be made public.

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ENERGY**NATURAL GAS—POSSIBLE SALE BY PANARCTIC TO
UNITED STATES—CONTROL OF PIPELINE**

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Having regard to the statement made by the President of Panarctic Oils Limited, of which the government of Canada is a substantial shareholder, to the effect that Panarctic intends to sell on the United States market at least one trillion cubic feet of gas annually, which is equal to the total volume of current Canadian gas consumption, would the minister inform the House whether this intention is shared by the Canadian government?

• (3:10 p.m.)

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, the gas that Panarctic Oils Limited has found so far cannot be sold on the American market without the approval of the Northern Canada Power Commission, and the abovementioned company will be subject to the same export regulations as all other Canadian companies.

[English]

Mr. Thomson: Does the federal government support the position of the President of Panarctic that the proposed Arctic pipeline should not be controlled by Panarctic Oils Limited?

Mr. Speaker: I doubt whether a question asked in those terms is in order.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION**AGREEMENT WITH MARITIME PROVINCES ON
CONTINUED OPERATION OF DEPARTMENTAL
ENGINEERING SERVICES—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT**

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for either the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion or the acting minister. Just before Christmas I asked whether an agreement had been negotiated between the department and the governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island with regard to the continued operation of the engineering services located in Amherst, Nova Scotia. The minister said an agreement had been worked out and had been placed before the cabinet for approval. Has that approval been given? Can the minister tell the House exactly what the situation is?