

defective pipeline at the Agassiz Bridge on the Fraser River?

● (1500)

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I have not seen that personally but I will make an immediate inquiry.

**Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain):** Would the minister, if he does find evidence of a report having been submitted, get the National Energy Board engineers to confirm or deny the truth of this allegation which has been dealt with in the British Columbia legislature and also in the newspapers there?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Yes, sir.

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### FLOODS

MOOSE JAW—REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fact that flood damage in the city of Moose Jaw is estimated to be approximately \$10 million, in view of the fact many of the residents suffered extensive damage both to their residences and to their businesses, and also in view of the fact that many of these people do not have the necessary funds to re-establish themselves, would the Acting Prime Minister take the necessary steps to make moneys available immediately to assist these people on the basis that any money paid out would be a charge against the moneys to be paid out later under the federal-provincial sharing agreement?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the arrangements for federal participation in meeting the cost of disasters of this kind are of long standing. We stand by these undertakings. The procedures are well established; the province of Saskatchewan can proceed and it will be compensated.

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### HEALTH

STEPS TO HAVE CERTAIN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES RETURN TO THEIR HOMELANDS

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, in view of Canada's contributions in foreign aid to underdeveloped countries I should like to ask the minister what steps the federal government is taking specifically to meet the urgent demands and pleas of the underdeveloped countries to have their overseas graduates return to their homelands?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the World Health Organization has recently suggested an international study of the migration of health personnel. We have just received representations from the World Health Organization in this respect. We

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are considering this proposal for study and I would think this matter might well be raised at the next conference of WHO in Geneva during the month of May.

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[Translation]

### AGRICULTURE

DAIRYING—POSSIBLE BOYCOTT BY QUEBEC PRODUCERS—REVISION OF POLICY

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Last week, at the annual meeting of the Quebec Federation of Milk Producers, it was decided that if the federal government did not revise its recent dairy policy, the federation would set up a strategy to boycott milk products; can the minister tell the House whether he is prepared to revise this policy which fails to meet the minimum requested by the federation?

[English]

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, we met the Ministers of Agriculture from la belle province, Mr. Pepin, and from the next belle province, Ontario, yesterday afternoon.

While I am on my feet I should like to make a correction to the answer which I gave earlier to the hon. member regarding flood damage in Alberta. I erred when I said that we were sharing with Saskatchewan \$1,200,000. It is possibly \$2 million that we will be sharing with them. Also, the Alberta government has informed us that as soon as they make a complete survey of the damage they will send us a formal request.

[Translation]

**Mr. La Salle:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

I have a clear impression that I did not get the answer I wanted. I want to know precisely—and I am very happy for the people of Ontario, Mr. Speaker—whether the minister is prepared to revise or reconsider milk policies to give a positive answer to the requests of the Quebec Federation of Milk Producers.

[English]

**Mr. Whelan:** The Minister of Agriculture of the province of Quebec has asked if I will meet with these people together with him, and I have agreed to this. We have also agreed to look over the whole program. But, to be fair, let me point out that the whole program is not three weeks old yet, and I do not know how they can say just what it is going to be. However, we are willing to explain it in greater detail to show them what this program will do and what we hope to do with the new long-term dairy policy.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will recognize the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton and then we will have to call orders of the day.