

ing. When he is in the House, he is blamed for not solving problems.

I will bring this question to the minister's attention, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

Mr. Horner: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that according to the roster the Minister of Agriculture is to be present in the House tomorrow, perhaps his Parliamentary Secretary could bring these questions to the minister's attention so that he can answer them tomorrow. The supplementary question is if in fact the eight bushel quota guarantee is not transferable, assuming that the surplus wheat is in the hands of a third of the farmers, then is the government in fact not guaranteeing to two-thirds of the farmers who have not a surplus of wheat that if they plant wheat this spring they will be given an eight bushel quota, and will this in fact not encourage them to plant wheat this spring?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. My understanding is that the hon. member has invited the Parliamentary Secretary to take note of the supplementary question and bring it to the attention of the minister.

Mr. Horner: I have one more supplementary question which I think I should put at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest that perhaps it should be as brief as possible because the first two questions were rather lengthy.

Mr. Horner: I am sure that if Your Honour checks back over the record you will find that I have been very brief in the question period in particular.

In light of the fact that the Minister of Agriculture, according to the roster system, is supposed to be in the House tomorrow, perhaps his Parliamentary Secretary might take this question also as notice.

Further, in light of the fact that the Minister of Agriculture knows the eastern irrigation district very well because he used to represent it, I would like to ask him this question and through you, Mr. Speaker, or his Parliamentary Assistant perhaps reach him: are he and his department considering additional moneys for summerfallow in the irrigation area because of the tremendous cost involved in summerfallowing land, particularly in the eastern irrigation district, and will additional consideration be given to this under the wheat acreage reduction program—

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Horner: —because I might add—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has had the floor for a considerable time. Now he is asking supplementaries. Perhaps he will take it for granted that the minister will answer.

Mr. Horner: I only hope he is here tomorrow.

[Translation]

FINANCE

QUEBEC—REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING REFUND OF \$200 MILLION

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the disagreement between the Quebec government and the central government in connection with the \$200 million deemed to have been collected in the province of Quebec under the social development tax, is the Quebec government making representations to or having talks with the federal authorities about the refund of those 200 millions?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not think that there is at the present time any exchange of views between the two levels of government. Some time ago, the premier of Quebec, or the provincial Minister of Finance, wrote to the federal Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) in that respect. I perused the answer prepared by the federal Minister of Finance, and that letter must have already been received by the Quebec minister. As for us, the matter has been settled for a long time and I think that the citizens of the province of Quebec will be pleased when, as soon as possible, the provincial government implements the medicare system.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

In connection with this quibbling, as it could be called, has the Prime Minister or the government been advised by Mr. Mario Beaulieu that the province will separate from Canada in 1974, if Ottawa does not accede to the claims of Quebec?