

*Adjournment Debate*

In areas which received more than 60 per cent of normal precipitations from November 1, 1979, to May 31, 1980, as recorded by Environment Canada, people will not be eligible because they will have had enough rain.

In the area of Pierceland, which is in the riding of my colleague, the rainfall was above 60 per cent. Applications from producers outside the drought zone, including Pierceland, were automatically sent to the appeal office for checking. The managers of the program were responsible for making recommendations to the office concerning the eligibility of the applicants and local conditions. The managers recommended that all the applications for aid coming from the area of Pierceland be dealt with with fairness and the appeal office will soon issue guidelines for processing those cases.

Naturally, as I have just said, farmers should receive an answer from the board within the next few weeks, and that of course, follows the representations made by the hon. member, as I recall, when the funds were being considered during the visit to Regina by the Minister of Agriculture. As we all know, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture held a convention here in Ottawa last week where this issue once again was considered. So I want to assure the hon. member that the Depart-

ment of Agriculture will give fair consideration to all requests made by farmers.

Now, will there be another drought next year? Let us hope not, Mr. Speaker. The west has known several while in the east we had heavy rainfalls. But we cannot plan the program for the years ahead without knowing whether or not there will be a drought.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Order. The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted.

*[English]*

If there were more members present, I would be inclined to welcome all of those who have come to the city of Ottawa to participate in the political involvement of Canada. Even in the absence of so many members, we wish them well.

**Mr. Knowles:** There are still four of us here.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Regardless of their purpose and affiliation, they constitute the very elite of Canada, and we welcome them.

This House stands adjourned until Monday at two o'clock in the afternoon.

At 10.30 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.