

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

FOOD PRICE INCREASES—REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER MEET FARM ORGANIZATIONS TO OBTAIN VIEWS—MEETING WITH WESTERN PREMIERS

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the finding of the food committee that the producer is suffering as much as the consumer from the fact that prices between the farm gate and the consumer continue to widen, will he meet with farm organizations in order to obtain the benefit of their views on current trends in prices?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the cabinet met less than three weeks ago with two farm organizations which made representations to cabinet on this and many other matters. I am always prepared to meet with representative organizations.

Mr. Gleave: May I ask the Prime Minister if, in view of the recent meeting of the four western premiers in which they expressed some unhappiness over the treatment that western Canada is now getting from Ottawa, he will contact the western premiers in order to ensure that there will be a meaningful exchange of views and concrete action at the forthcoming meeting next July with regard to some of these problems?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, surely the House realizes that it is the federal government that initiated these meetings and suggested they were necessary to meet problems that exist in the west. Therefore the hon. member's enjoinder should be addressed to the premiers rather than to this government.

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NATIONAL PARKS

PROPOSED GROS MORNE PARK—DECISION ON NEWFOUNDLAND REQUEST FOR RENEGOTIATION OF BOUNDARIES

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Can the minister advise, as he indicated he would, whether he has reached a decision with regard to the request by the province of Newfoundland to renegotiate the boundaries of Gros Morne Park as they now discriminate against communities whose citizens do not want to move?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have made a decision and I hope to be able to inform the government of Newfoundland of it next week. I prefer not to inform the House so as not to be accused of favouritism.

[English]

[Later:]

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development indicated he would be providing information to the

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province of Newfoundland. As national parks fall within federal jurisdiction and as the member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe represents that district, will the minister indicate why I cannot get the information?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I will communicate with both at the same time so that one will not be jealous of the other.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

INQUIRY AS TO MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER AND NATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Is the minister going to meet soon with the Native Council of Canada as requested by its president, Mr. Tony Belcourt, so that the council can have an input into the revised DREE policies which I understand will be announced in the not too distant future?

• (1500)

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I will be more than pleased to meet with the particular group to which the hon. member refers. I had some meetings three or four weeks ago with one group, the Manitoba Indian groups that may wish to meet with me.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO LEGISLATION TO GIVE CROWN EQUITY IN CORPORATIONS RECEIVING GRANTS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion a question in terms of the review of his policy. Is the minister in a position to inform the House today whether the government will make it a requirement in the future that companies receiving financial assistance of any form from the federal government, will give the government of Canada some degree of equity in the corporation, as a consideration for the assistance?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, this is one of several facets of the changes in the Regional Development Incentives Act that we are considering. The hon. member and I have had conversations on this. There are cases where it is an attractive proposition and, where that exists, we are certainly prepared to exercise that option.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

ALLEGED TUBAL LIGATION OF NATIVE WOMEN WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE OR AGAINST THEIR WILL—PROVISION OF INTERPRETER

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. This matter was raised by my