

Oral Questions

talking of the Farm Credit Corporation but of the Manitoba Institute of Management, Inc. It was in no way unconstitutional or anything else, and there is no harm in this at all.

● (1150)

Mr. Beatty: Is the minister specifically aware of Privy Council Order in Council 1974-4065? Paragraph 7 reads:

Public servants should hold no outside office or employment that could place on them demands inconsistent with their official duties or call into question their capacity to perform those duties in an objective manner.

If so, how does he square that with the statement he just made?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, I have no trouble squaring that with the statement I have just made. I refer the hon. member back to January 26, 1977 when that question was placed on the order paper and answered in detail. If Mr. Speaker wants to give me time, I will read the question and the answer to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Red Deer.

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CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD**POSSIBILITY OF AMENDMENT OF ACT TO AVOID HARASSMENT OF PRODUCERS—MEASURES TO INCREASE SALES**

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. In view of the increasing number of grain producers and elevator agents in Alberta who are being charged for petty violations of the Canadian Wheat Board Act, which are offences only because of bad legislation passed by parliament early in 1972, is the minister giving any consideration to having the Canadian Wheat Board Act scrutinized and amended by parliament so that harassment of producers and agents will not continue?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to have a look at the question with the Canadian Wheat Board as to whether the rules as they now exist are working satisfactorily. I should think hon. members would not want to weaken the position of the Wheat Board and the quota regulations in their attempt to obtain equity between producers and their delivery opportunities as a result of enforcing those rules.

Mr. Towers: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Canadian Wheat Board seems to be preoccupied with prosecuting producers for insignificant misdemeanours instead of going out and selling grain, and in view of the charge made by the premier of Alberta that Canada is being out-hustled in the sale of grain, would the minister tell us when we can see some action to correct these two matters?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I hope the hon. member is not associating himself with the ridiculous suggestion that the

[Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan).]

Wheat Board is being out-hustled when our market share is increasing and when by the time this crop year ends we will have exported in total more grain than in any year but two in the history of our Canadian grain selling effort. We will have a very good year of selling indeed, and forward sales are in an extremely solid position.

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FARM CREDIT CORPORATION**JUSTIFICATION FOR REMOVING EXECUTIVE POWER FROM CHAIRMAN—ALLEGATION OF MOONLIGHTING BY EMPLOYEES**

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the question put by the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo, and I would like to direct it to the acting Minister of Agriculture. Since there are all the appearances of hanky-panky at the very top level of the Farm Credit Corporation, what is the justification for stripping chairman Baldur Kristjanson of all real executive power and giving operational authority to Murray McBride, a former Liberal member of parliament, who was appointed vice-chairman a little more than a year ago?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, that question is noted.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Malone: Just so that the record is clear, would the minister confirm or deny the report that within the Farm Credit Corporation there is extensive moonlighting going on and that it is now going on in part on employee time? Would he confirm or deny that?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, I have no problem denying that report.

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CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD**REASON FOR ESTABLISHING DIFFERENT DELIVERY QUOTAS IN CERTAIN AREAS AS COMPARED TO OTHER AREAS**

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the question asked by the hon. member for Red Deer, and it is addressed to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. The minister spoke of equity of delivery as being one of the principles of the Wheat Board, and I am wondering if the minister can advise us as to the reason the quota in some blocks of the Canadian Wheat Board area is now 12 bushels per acre while in other blocks it is only nine bushels per acre. Is it the intention of the board to equalize the delivery quota?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, while the equity principle and the quota management system are very important, obviously the Wheat Board may from time to time have to move quotas ahead in order to obtain the kind