

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS—REQUEST THAT YUKON
RESIDENTS BE INCLUDED IN FEDERAL
REPRESENTATION ON NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. When he sets up the negotiating committee that the Prime Minister approved when the Yukon Native Brotherhood presented its brief, will he ensure that there are members on the federal side of the negotiating team selected from residents of the Yukon Territory, preferably through the Commissioner in Council?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we have already considered that possibility. We have received requests to that effect from various people and organizations in the Yukon, and we intend to start consultations in concert with some Yukon residents.

* * *

[English]

AGRICULTURE

TAXATION OF MARKETING QUOTAS—POSSIBLE
REVISION IN LIGHT OF REPRESENTATIONS BY FARM
GROUPS

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and many other farm groups regard the budget provisions for taxation of farm marketing quotas as, to use their words, "thoroughly inequitable and hopelessly complex", what steps does the minister intend to take to correct this situation and, specifically, will he undertake that such quotas will have valuation day values as do all other capital assets?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, though not accepting the premise of the question, may I say I met with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture executive last week and we will be meeting and discussing these matters further. I am not of the opinion that they are that dissatisfied.

CONSULTATION WITH MINISTER ON TARIFF
REDUCTIONS ON HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND BEEF
PRIOR TO BUDGET

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. Was the minister consulted about the changes that were to be made by the budget involving the reduction of tariffs on horticultural products and beef, and if he was consulted did he agree with them?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member knows that this is a very consultative group on this side of the House and that we discuss many things. I think he understands also how the budget is prepared and that he has to wait as I do until it is presented to the House.

Oral Questions

Mr. McKinley: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that this is a poor way for any government to do business. I ask the minister, what reciprocal benefits will come to Canadian farmers by way of other countries lowering their tariffs?

Mr. Whelan: Again, Mr. Speaker, many of these matters are under discussion. As late as yesterday they were under discussion in Washington by myself and the Secretary of Agriculture of that country.

• (1500)

Mr. McKinley: Mr. Speaker, that is just another way of saying none.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before calling orders of the day I will recognize the hon. member for St. Catharines.

* * *

FLOODS

HIGH WATER LEVELS IN GREAT LAKES—POSSIBILITY OF
LOWERING BY DIVERSION INTO MISSISSIPPI RIVER
SYSTEM

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of the Environment concerning water levels in the Great Lakes system. As the city of Chicago needs lots of water because of its pollution problems, have negotiations been carried on with the state of Illinois to lower the level of the water in the Great Lakes system by emptying it through Lake Michigan into the Mississippi Valley system, which is what Illinois and Chicago have wanted for a number of years?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the position of the Canadian government over many years has been to resist any diversion through the Chicago drainage canal into the Mississippi River system. If an attempt were made in the next few weeks, for example, to remove water through the present canal, only a very small amount could be discharged into the Mississippi. This would have a marginal effect on Lake Michigan and none at all on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

Mr. Morgan: I agree with the minister that it would not help the condition this year. Does the minister not agree that an adequate treaty could be made between the government of Canada and the state of Illinois to regulate water levels properly so that an adequate system of controls could be effective throughout the Great Lakes system?

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we have a basic policy, that we are opposed to the export of water from the Great Lakes and from Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order relating to the answer given by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. The minister suggested that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation has no direct involvement in authorizing rent increases in limited dividend housing projects. I