### Oral Questions

these potential contracts into as small component parts as is possible to ensure that small and medium sized entrepeneurs will be able to bid on the specific contracts.

What is also important, I think, is that the business community in western Canada consider forming consortia to undertake a project of this magnitude.

## AGRICULTURE

# REQUEST THAT QUEBEC ADVERTISEMENT BE PUBLISHED NATIONALLY

Hon. John Wise (Elgin): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture and is supplementary to the subject matter that was raised earlier in an exchange between the Hon. Member for Vegreville and the Minister of Transport. It is with reference to the advertisement which appeared in the Quebec newspapers. It is clear that this leaves the impression that the Government is saying one thing in one part of the country and something else in the other.

Secondly, there is a clear impression given that western Canadian agricultural producers are going to benefit as a result of the Crow rate changes. There is no question about that. Since this ad was paid for out of the budget of the Minister of Agriculture, would he agree, to clear up this misunderstanding, and I am sure that is exactly what it is, to publish the same ad in both official languages in all the newspapers in all regions of the country?

If the answer is no, obviously the impression is still going to stand that the Minister is in fact saying one thing in one part of the country and something else in the other.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member makes mention of an ad that was placed in some papers in an eastern part of Canada. These ads are factual, they are straightforward, but the Hon. Member has not paid any attention to what the Minister of Transport has said. The Minister of Transport said that the marketing conditions, et cetera, are different in eastern Canada. For instance, pork production, which is of great concern, is exported into New York State and that part of the United States. The production is going to take place under this program, and a similar kind of an ad could be explained in western Canada just as easily, as their exports go into that great populous area, the State of California, and we want that kind of process to take place in western Canada. The people who are in livestock agricultural production know that that is what it will do for them. The Hon. Members opposite should talk to the people in the livestock industry, who are the ones who have recommended this. Of course the Hon. Members opposite do not pay much attention to anyone who recommends anything. For instance, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture unanimously endorsed Canagrex yesterday.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wise: Madam Speaker, that is simply a disgraceful answer. I will provide the Minister with a second opportunity to answer my question in order to clear up this confusion and misunderstanding. I am giving him the benefit of the doubt as I am sure it is not intentional.

#### REQUEST FOR ADVERTISEMENT PUBLICATION

Hon. John Wise (Elgin): Madam Speaker, I ask the Minister of Agriculture will he simply publish the same ad in all newspapers in both official languages in all regions of the country. I would like him to answer with a simple yes or no, which is the only kind of an answer that will clear up this matter.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, he knows—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: Madam Speaker, if they had a leader over there I would ask him to put them in order, but—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: The Hon. Member wants a simple answer, yes or no. He knows that there is a difference, because in Quebec the Government of Quebec has led a special propaganda program—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: —and misinformed the people there. No Government in western Canada has seen fit to do such a thing because Governments there know that this program is going to assist agriculture and assist livestock production, and make it possible to export more.

If it becomes necessary to explain this kind of a program in western Canada, yes, we will do it by ads, but the Opposition wants us to have restraint, so we should not do this until we feel that it is necessary to move into these areas.

#### CANADA LABOUR CODE

#### PROTECTION FOR WORKERS ON OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING RIGS

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. We have been waiting in this House for three years for the federal Government to introduce changes to Part IV of the Canada Labour Code, which deals with occupational health and safety.

One of the problems with the incident of the *Ocean Ranger* is that the federal Labour Code does not protect workers on offshore rigs. The preliminary report in the United States indicates that management negligence has resulted in the