

*Agriculture Consultant Studies*

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the imputation of motives on both sides be withdrawn.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am sure that is a reasonable suggestion and that it would be agreed to by all hon. members. Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those in favour will please say yea.

**Some hon. Members:** Yea.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some hon. Members:** Nay.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** In my opinion the nays have it.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** On division.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Motion negated, on division.

Motion negated.

#### CONSULTANT STUDIES—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw)** moved:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all outside consultant studies undertaken for the Department of Agriculture as mentioned in answer to question No. 1,323, tabled on June 25, 1969, as reported in *Hansard* on page 10597.

He said: Mr. Speaker, before asking the minister whether or not he is prepared to accept this motion I think it only proper that we look at the question that is before us, look at the answer that was received, and see whether there was any reason why it should not be placed on the Order Paper as a Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers.

• (5:40 p.m.)

I was somewhat amused—and understandably so—by the hon. member for York East (Mr. Otto) in his latest barrage of inaccuracies. This follows along the line of what is wrong with this House of Commons today—the complete misunderstanding of hon. mem-

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

bers from central Canada of the problems affecting the west and the Maritimes.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Skoberg:** Listening to the hon. member for York East when he spoke today, and on an earlier occasion when I raised the question of notice for the production of papers, one could see that he is a strong supporter of political patronage in its worst form. If the hon. member would read "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich," he would realize that this party in particular is determined that all documents shall be public and that all newspapers shall have access to them so they can inform the country in an enlightened way.

The hon. member for York West (Mr. Givens) appeared on television recently and suggested that because 80 per cent of the population of Canada lives in large urban centres, this House should devote 80 per cent of its time to the people of those areas. But, Mr. Speaker, 42 per cent of the people of Canada are either directly or indirectly connected with agriculture. It seems, however, that the people of central Canada are completely unaware of the importance of the agricultural economy.

**Mr. McIlraith:** That is not a fair charge.

**Mr. Skoberg:** It is most important, Mr. Speaker, that every Member of Parliament ask this government for all papers pertaining to those things that are important to the people of this country. It is no wonder the west is seriously talking of secession. It is time, before the patient dies, that the government look at this serious situation in an enlightened manner. I sincerely hope that members from central Canada will never sit on a committee looking at the problems of the east, or the west, because they do not understand them.

I should like to ask whether the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) is prepared to accept some of this report I have before me in regard to my notice for the production of papers. I know the minister is well aware of the situation in regard to farming throughout Canada and its importance to our economy. I am given to understand that he may be prepared to supply some of this information. In the event that he is not, I wish to complete some of the statements I have to make at this time.

**Mr. Olson:** When the hon. member has finished his speech, I shall make mine.