

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Did he authorize the premier of Saskatchewan to indicate that the increase in the price for wheat under the international agreement would be 20 cents?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

THE BUDGET**INQUIRY AS TO PROBABLE DATE OF PRESENTATION**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George Hees (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Could the minister advise the house when he expects to present his budget to the house.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the date has not yet been fixed.

[Translation]

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS**STATEMENT BY QUEBEC MINISTER ON CULTURAL EXCHANGES WITH FRANCE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Is the minister aware of the wild statement made by the Quebec minister Jean-Noël Tremblay to the effect that cultural exchanges with the French government concern Quebec only, and can he state categorically what attitude the central government has adopted with regard to that touchy matter?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have read a report on the speech the minister made in Montreal last Sunday. If I am not mistaken, I believe he criticized us because we decided to grant subsidies to a benevolent organization known as AUPELF. I feel that in the interest of unity and amongst French-speaking countries, the help and initiative of the federal government should be supported.

Mr. Caouette: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Could the minister tell the house what prevents the province of Quebec from taking its own stand in this particular matter, without turning to federal members of parliament?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The question is out of order.

[Mr. Nesbitt.]

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs in connection with the statement he has just made. Can he tell the house what prevents the central government from consulting the Quebec government, as regards other French language countries—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question is as much out of order as the previous one.

Mr. Allard: They are afraid to answer, Mr. Speaker. The government is lousy.

CONSULTATION RESPECTING CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the recent cultural agreement between Canada and Belgium. Has the central government consulted the provincial governments in general and the Quebec government in particular before concluding such an agreement?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question should be put on the order paper.

Mr. Allard: At ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

AGRICULTURE**INQUIRY AS TO REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH FARM ORGANIZATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Did he receive a request from the U.C.C., the O.F.A. and the O.F.U. for a meeting on May 24 and, if so, what was his reply?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I received such a request and also a request from the dairy farmers of Canada for a meeting, which was held last Friday afternoon. I suggested several alternative dates to the other organizations and I am awaiting their replies in this regard.

Mr. Winkler: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is it true that the reply to this request on the part of these three recognized organizations was sent on the evening of May 5 but dated May 1?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That question is not in order.