

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, search warrants often ask for evidence in the hands of people who could be witnesses but not suspects, and that is what I was pointing out to the hon. member.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I wonder if I could then ask the Minister without Portfolio whether, in view of the negotiations which are now taking place with the RCMP, he believes that he is not obliged to make full disclosure of documents to the RCMP on a principle akin to the apparently discredited doctrine of executive privilege in the United States.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for New Westminster.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

FEDERAL LEVEL FOR ASBESTOS FIBRES—POSSIBILITY OF PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT ON NATIONAL LEVEL

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Fisheries) in his capacity as Acting Minister of the Environment. In view of the announcement he made recently of national levels under the Clean Air Act for two fibres—*asbestos* being one, for which we congratulate the minister—and in view of the conflict which arises throughout the various provinces in terms of fibre levels—for example, in British Columbia the level is five, and there are various other levels—can the minister advise what instructions he is giving industry as to which of the levels it should comply with? Secondly, is there yet any federal-provincial agreement in terms of the enforcement of the national level in provincial areas?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Acting Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for giving me credit which belongs to my predecessor, the present Minister of Communications.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): I merely came in and signed the press release. I will study the question of the hon. member, ascertain the details of the consultations with the provinces and try to give him a substantial answer tomorrow.

DATE OF APPOINTMENT OF FULL-TIME MINISTER

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): At the present time we have a problem in Port Hope with regard to the closure of the school and a house as a result of radiation poisoning. Mercury poisoning is occurring throughout the country, with some cases being confirmed, and at Syncrude there is a problem with SO₂ emissions. Will the minister continue to take this portfolio as his second responsibility, or will there be a full-time minister of the environment to deal with these very serious problems which are arising?

Oral Questions

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Acting Minister of the Environment): I suggest to the hon. member that this question would be better asked of the Prime Minister.

An hon. Member: Why don't you ask him?

POSSIBILITY OF SETTING NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR SO₂ EMISSIONS

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): In view of the belated actions of the previous minister in declaring national standards for asbestos under the Clean Air Act, does the minister intend to set a national standard with regard to SO₂ emissions, because the emissions out of the tar sands will be well above federal studies? Will the minister now take action to declare national standards with regard to SO₂, which he has the clear power to do under the Clean Air Act?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Acting Minister of the Environment): I will, of course, take the suggestion of the hon. member very seriously.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT OF DAIRY POLICY

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Considering that the industrial milk producers in Quebec are now experiencing a drop in their revenues with reference to the grants they received in October on 75 per cent only of their production, and considering that an economist named Barry Proud has said that the dairy farmers' revenues will greatly drop in 1976, can the Minister tell the House whether he will introduce amendments to the dairy policy which will take into account the actual production costs in order to prevent a drop in the revenues of those producers who make up an essential sector of this country?

● (1420)

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the dairy policy we have sets production goals for dairy farmers and it is one of the most fair policies in the world. I wish hon. members would realize that our dairy producers are amongst the highest paid in the world. We are paying exactly what we said we would pay on the production we requested. In April this year we told them how much money we had and we told them we wanted 100 million cwt. of milk. That comes to about \$278 million. If they produce above that they will have to produce it for less money.

[Translation]

ACCEPTANCE OF DAIRY POLICY BY QUEBEC PRODUCERS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): I understand perfectly well the Minister's answer and explanations, but in