

*Inquiries of the Ministry***PRAIRIE GRAIN STABILIZATION ACT**

PROVISION FOR PAYMENTS TO WESTERN CANADA PRODUCERS IN YEARS WHEN RECEIPTS BELOW FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-244, respecting the stabilization of Prairie grain sale proceeds and to repeal or amend certain related statutes.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**NATIONAL SECURITY**

GOVERNMENT INTENTION REGARDING PUBLIC ORDER (TEMPORARY MEASURES) ACT—APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE OF SENATE AND HOUSE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice relating to the Public Order (Temporary Measures) Act. Has any decision been made following the meeting of the government? Whatever the decision, I gather that the minister has not decided to resign in any event. Can the minister tell the House whether or not a decision has been reached with regard to the continuation of the so-called Turner act or as to any measure to take its place?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): The government has decided not to seek extension of the Public Order (Temporary Measures) Act.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The President of the Privy Council will be giving notice of a resolution to appoint a special joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons to examine, inquire into and report upon the nature and kind of legislation required to deal with emergencies that may arise from time to time in the future by reason of lawlessness or violence in Canadian society that would endanger the existence of government or the maintenance of peace and public order.

NUMBER OF CHARGES PENDING FOR MEMBERSHIP IN FLQ

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question following that very decisive measure announced by the minister. I should like to ask the minister whether there are charges pending, where trial has not been completed, for membership in the FLQ, and if there are such charges pending where trial has not been completed, approximately how many such charges are there?

[Mr. Forget.]

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I have sought that information and will give it to the House, but I want to say to the Leader of the Opposition that any charges pending under the Public Order (Temporary Measures) Act remain valid charges even after the expiry of that act.

Mr. Stanfield: Yes, but I wonder whether the minister would make a statement to the House promptly with regard to the confusing situation which now exists whereby, for example, it is today a crime under the Turner act to be a member of the FLQ whereas on Monday it will not be. Will the minister make a statement explaining the position of the government and setting forth exactly where matters stand and how the government proposes to justify the situation that will exist?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I do not need to make a statement; I can reply to the question very briefly. While it is true that membership in the FLQ will no longer, *per se*, be a criminal offence, I believe it can properly be said that having regard to the proposed aims and purposes of the FLQ it will continue to be an illegal organization in the sense that any group of individuals who conspire together to commit criminal acts and who do in fact commit such criminal acts can properly be described as an illegal organization.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I told you that on October 16 and you denied it. You just discovered the Criminal Code.

NUMBER OF CHARGES LAID UNDER WAR MEASURES AND PUBLIC ORDER (TEMPORARY MEASURES) ACTS

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): When my friends to the left are a little quieter I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister. In light of the answer now given by the Minister of Justice and in light of the answer he gave to the news media yesterday, were not all the offences in reference to this matter covered in the Criminal Code if the law had been administered under the Criminal Code? I wonder, therefore, if the Minister could answer why the act was brought in at all?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will recognize that the question as asked is an argument, and I have the impression that I have heard that argument on a number of occasions.

Mr. Woolliams: Then may I rephrase it, Mr. Speaker. In light of the answer given by the Minister of Justice I should like to ask the Prime Minister how many charges were actually laid under the War Measures Act and the Public Order (Temporary) Measures Act out of the 497 who were arrested?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I do not have the information, Mr. Speaker, but the Minister of Justice has given the statistics from time to time that he got from the Attorney General of Quebec.