

Oral Questions

similarly leave out services in the health care field, if the Government does not want to see health care handed over to the United States?

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, of course, health care is in provincial hands under the Constitution. All of us recognize that. Surely, keeping in mind the five principles of the Canada Health Act, for example, public administration and universal access, the provinces have scope within that Canada Health Act to have the kind of administration of the health care system, the hospital system, they want. The same thing with day care. What the hon. gentleman has in mind is one system only. Surely today, when 40 per cent of day care spaces are in the commercial section—

Mr. Broadbent: Day care is out of the Act.

Mr. Epp (Provencher):—the provinces have made the decision as to what is best. The New Democratic Party so often wants to stand up here and say provincial rights and at the same time hope that from a national point we impose—which we cannot constitutionally do—issues and directives which in the health care field or day care system are totally within provincial jurisdiction.

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NATIONAL PARKS**NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH GRASSLANDS NATIONAL PARK IN SASKATCHEWAN**

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. It concerns the ongoing negotiations between the Government of Saskatchewan and Canada for the establishment of the Grasslands National Park in southwestern Saskatchewan. The negotiations at various times have reached an impasse over oil and gas exploration rights and also over jurisdiction with respect to river beds. Can the Minister tell the House the current status of the negotiations? And when can Canadians expect an announcement concerning the establishment of this new national park for generations to come?

Hon. Tom McMillan (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, over the course of its mandate to date, this Government has established three new national parks, Ellesmere Island in the high Arctic, Bruce Peninsula in Ontario and South Moresby in British Columbia. We have completed, or are in the process of completing, two additional ones. We are now turning our attention as a major priority to a sixth, the establishment of a national park called Grasslands in Saskatchewan.

In that connection, I will be meeting Wednesday with the deputy premier of Saskatchewan on Wednesday, who will, I hope, be resolving with me all outstanding issues, including the

ones to which the Hon. Member has made reference. After that meeting, in the next few weeks, I expect to be in a position to put forward some specific proposals to my cabinet colleagues to resolve this very important national question.

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[Translation]

FREE TRADE**REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF CLAUSES AFFECTING FARMERS**

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. the Prime Minister. In his litany of supporters, the Prime Minister of course did not refer to the agricultural community, because he broke his promise and reneged on his commitment to them. The question I want to ask the Prime Minister, if he read the agreement, is as follows: In Article 710 he sought to make the agricultural community feel secure by saying that GATT Section 11 could be invoked. On the other hand, he has also negated that section in Article 703 where the Government signed a clause aimed at improving access to respective markets by eliminating or reducing import barriers with respect to agricultural products.

Here is my question to the Prime Minister: How can he justify including this clause in the agreement after having stated that agriculture would not even be covered by the agreement?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, had the Hon. Member been able to listen to Mr. Bernard Landry Friday night when he commented on the impact of the agreement articles on agriculture he would have heard him say that it is indeed a truly remarkable gain for Quebec farmers, that these articles have been greatly improved, and that Mr. Landry, like the spokesmen for the Quebec Government, Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Pagé—

Mr. Lapierre: How many cows does he have?

Mr. Mulroney: He says: How many cows does Mr. Macdonald have? Mr. Macdonald is the Quebec Government External Trade Minister and, next time I see him, I will tell him the Hon. Member for Shefford is interested in his cows!

THE AGREEMENT—FAMILY FARMS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister was unable to quote a single farm source to support his position.

My question is this. After promising farmers they would be protected and first, that they would be excluded from the Agreement, he is now doing a job on farmers in this very Agreement. His Minister of State (Agriculture) has promised to add certain products to the quota list, but according to Section 48 of the Agreement they can't do this. Consequently, is the Prime Minister prepared to admit to farmers that as a