

part calls on the American secretary of state to try and negotiate a treaty with Canada to attempt to fight transboundary air pollution. It has also been reported that the third annual report of the Michigan-Ontario Air Pollution Board indicates increases in certain kinds of transboundary air pollution in these areas.

Will the government immediately take the initiative to open negotiations for a treaty with the United States to enable both countries to fight transboundary air pollution more effectively, bearing in mind the relatively successful example of the treaty to fight Great Lakes' water pollution which has been in existence since 1971?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We will, of course, be pursuing the initiative which President Carter referred to recently and which we have been discussing jointly through the International Joint Commission for some time.

This gives me an opportunity to announce to the House what I know will be welcome news. It is that Secretary of State Vance will be paying an official visit on the twenty-first and twenty-second of this month. This will be one of the matters we will be discussing.

* * *

TRANSPORT

MOVEMENT OF RAPESEED

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport: it has to do with his responsibility for the Wheat Board. I ask this not only because of complaints from people in the cities, but the rural areas, the fact that rapeseed is outside the jurisdiction and control of the Wheat Board which controls quotas and sales, and the fact that farmers are anxious to get some cash flow because there is no grain moving.

● (1452)

Would the minister approach the Wheat Board with reference to rapeseed, to see that it will move? I would remind him we are not affecting rail transportation because much of this rapeseed will be moved by trucks.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport and Minister of Justice): Well, Mr. Speaker, rapeseed moving by truck has not caused any difficulty at all for the Canadian Wheat Board. to supervise space generally the Wheat Board, indeed, does have to look at quotas including, in relation to rapeseed, the point of view of assuming that there is adequate space and equipment available for the movement of wheat and barley as well.

Over the years, the Wheat Board has been very careful to assure that the fullest possible space was given to rapeseed, and I do not think anyone can make a case that it was anything but lenient toward its movement, as distinct from the movement of wheat and barley which is the board's major responsibility.

Oral Questions

Mr. Woolliams: That is very good rhetoric on the part of the minister, but if he inquires of the producers—and some of them live in the cities as well as the country—he will find out that they are not able to move the only cash crop on the prairies. I am asking the minister, now, whether he will contact the Canadian Wheat Board with reference to this matter, as there is no cash flow at all to enable those producers to meet their expenses.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, rapeseed, as with wheat and barley, had an opening initial quota and under those quotas farmers were able to deliver their grain. The rapeseed quota is every bit as large, if not larger than, for instance, that for barley. So the hon. member, although he says he has some constituents in his city growing rapeseed, should not overlook the fact that we have to be fair to wheat producers and barley producers as well, even if they do not all live in Calgary.

* * *

FORESTRY

PRIVATIZATION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment. The answers he gave the previous questions concerning Petawawa and the other institutes were not very satisfactory. He did not provide the rationale, first of all, for the closure of Petawawa and then the reversal of that decision. I would hope he would take the opportunity at some convenient time to do so.

Meanwhile, he was talking about privatization, and I was wondering whether he would give some indication to both the House and the nation of what progress he is making with the privatization of such research facilities as were at Petawawa and are going to be there in a reduced size, and also at the other institutes. Perhaps he would, at the same time, mention—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Len Marchand (Minister of State (Environment)): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what else the hon. member was going to ask, but there has never been any talk about privatization in connection with Petawawa. We were talking about privatizing two labs, one in Vancouver and one here in Ottawa. These are forest products labs, and in answer to a question previously asked by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie I indicated I had met at noon today with the Forestry Advisory Council and they reminded me that the privatization of these two labs was one of the recommendations they had made back in 1973. So we are very much looking forward to the achievement of the privatization of these two labs.

As a matter of fact, we now have the wheels in motion as a result of the report of Dr. Solandt and we felt that with the involvement of industry and the universities and of the provincial governments we can strengthen these two labs.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): That has to do with the recommendation in 1973 and the privatization in 1978. The