

Oral Questions

compete effectively with other foreign-controlled corporations operating in Canada?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member will understand that the whole thrust of the Foreign Investment Review Act is concerned with the actions of the purchaser and not the motivation of the vendor.

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GRAIN**STEPS TO OVERCOME SHORTAGE OF FEED GRAIN IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to that of the hon. member for Kent-Essex. I direct it to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. Because the minister was absent last Friday, the Prime Minister took as notice a question regarding persistent reports that many feed grain users in eastern Canada face severe shortages of this commodity. I should like to ask the minister what specific plans the government now has to alleviate this situation.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, as was indicated to the House yesterday, and I think the day before as well, a meeting was held in Moncton on Monday of this week with the various interested parties, including the grains group, the Canadian Livestock Feed Board, the Canadian Wheat Board and the railways. As a result of that meeting, the Canadian Livestock Feed Board will be obtaining information as accurate as possible on requirements for supplies, and co-operation will be sought on all sides to see that the supplies required get to their destinations appropriately and that stocks are built up as a reserve as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure we can get in all the supplementaries before the end of the question period. Perhaps hon. members would want to spend the rest of the question period on this subject. For the moment I will see the hon. member for Annapolis Valley, then the hon. member for Laval and perhaps others.

FEED GRAIN—AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLIES FROM WHEAT BOARD AND RAILWAY CARS FOR MOVEMENT TO EASTERN CANADA

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, in view of that meeting in Moncton and the fact that the minister responsible for the Wheat Board had his officials there and the further fact that all four parties did come to a consensus, has the minister received a firm commitment from the Wheat Board that stocks will be released and a commitment from the railways that rolling stock will be supplied to take the grain east that is designated by the Livestock Feed Board?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, there never has been any question of any hesitation on the part of the Canadian Wheat Board in respect of the availability of stocks. As long as the shipping season was open a certain priority was being given at the terminals to the

[Mr. Fraser.]

loading of vessels, including the loading of domestic grain into vessels. That is now turning very much to the loading of railway cars for the remaining movement of grain and, as far as I know there is full co-operation on all sides. Therefore I am optimistic about the situation.

[Translation]

REQUEST FOR EASTERN PROVINCES REPRESENTATION ON CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Mr. Marcel Roy (Laval): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board.

In view of the feed grain situation in the eastern provinces, which are not represented on the Canadian Wheat Board, is the minister prepared, in connection with the implementation of the new feed grain policy, to see to it that those provinces are represented by commissioners on the wheat board?

[English]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the chief function of the Canadian Wheat Board will continue to be to act as marketing agent for exportable grain and the grain that is exported from the prairie region. The persons who are appointed to the Canadian Wheat Board as commissioners and staff are people chosen for their ability and not necessarily on a regional basis. Indeed, at the present time one of the commissioners happens to be a Canadian born in the Ottawa area. On the other hand, the Canadian Livestock Feed Board performs extremely important functions in attempting to protect the needs of the users of feed grain in all parts of Canada, and that board will be seen as having an even more important role in the future in respect of feed grain policy.

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● (1540)

[Translation]

MANPOWER**LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST THAT CERTAIN PROJECTS BE ANNOUNCED**

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister responsible for the Local Initiatives Program, namely the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Can he give the assurance to the House that the local initiatives projects which are still to be announced in many constituencies, and mainly in Quebec and Lotbinière, will be announced tomorrow night at the latest?

Some hon. Members: As of midnight.

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that all projects that are going to be approved will carry such an announcement by this weekend.