

if we change the regulations, the safety of the people will be assured.

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AGRICULTURE

FERTILIZER—ALLEGED SHORTAGE CREATED BY UNITED STATES PURCHASES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Stan Schellenberger (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. It is of some urgency since prairie farmers may well be starting to plant their crops. Is the minister aware that American interests are buying up large amounts of fertilizer in western Canada and that our own farmers are unable to obtain sufficient supplies for their needs?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, this is a new matter that has been brought to my attention. I have been checking reports about fertilizer supplies not being available. Most of the inquiries we have made have shown that this is not so. If the hon. member has new evidence, I would be glad to look at it and take the appropriate action. Canadians must be served first, especially by those plants which received DREE grants—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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FINANCE

DIFFERENCE IN BANK RATE BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Due to the fact that one of the major reasons for the rise in the bank rate in Canada is the differential in rates between Canada and the United States, does the minister believe the change in the United States today will require a rise in the bank rate in Canada?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not think the hon. member would want me to speculate.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO REMOVE DRUG TRAFFICKERS FROM ROCHDALE COLLEGE

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Solicitor General. In view of the fact that the public's tolerance and patience respecting Rochdale College in Toronto is almost at an end, and that an open confrontation between citizens and ratepayers groups of metro Toronto and residents of that college is developing this very day, and in view of the fact that Rochdale has clearly defaulted on its CMHC mortgage and the Minister of State for Urban Affairs has refused to take action, will the Solicitor General advise what action he is prepared to

take to clean up this place and convert the building into something more useful than the haven for drug traffickers which it is now?

Oral Questions

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. The question stated by the hon. member is totally without foundation. The federal government, through the instrumentality of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, has been taking every possible action to take possession. We have to obey the law and the order of the Supreme Court of Ontario which refused to give us possession. It was at our suggestion and request of the courts that a receiver was appointed to act on behalf of the creditors. That is the position we are enforcing in order to foreclose with all possible diligence.

Some hon. Members: hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister rose on a question of privilege. I suggest it was a point of debate. I must remind the hon. member for St. Paul's that his question did allege facts and to that extent it was not in order. The hon. member might like to rephrase his question or ask a supplementary.

Mr. Atkey: To the extent there is evidence available to the government to the effect there has been a substantial amount of drug trafficking in Rochdale College, what action is the Solicitor General prepared to take?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, whenever there are infractions, the RCMP does its best to enforce the Narcotics Act. I will have to get a report with regard to all cases involving Rochdale College. I will do that and give the report to the hon. member.

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TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—CANADIAN PROPOSALS

Mr. Max Saltzman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It concerns the Canada-U.S. auto agreement. In view of the tough line the Americans seem to be taking with regard to the agreement, does the minister have an alternative plan to the present agreement that he can put into effect as a bargaining lever?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I answered that question yesterday, as I have on previous occasions. I indicated to the House that we are prepared to entertain improvements in the working of the auto pact, provided there are the necessary protective devices to ensure that Canadians will have a fair share of the North American market.