

GRAIN

INQUIRY AS TO SALE OF FEED GRAINS BY WHEAT BOARD
TO MANITOBA MILLS AT LOWER PRICES THAN SET BY
PROVINCIAL COMMISSION

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. Is the Canadian Wheat Board offering feed grains for sale to feed mills in Manitoba at prices lower than those set by the Manitoba Feed Grains Commission? If so, is it violating the regulations of that provincial commission?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure the regulations would have any effect. The price at which the Canadian Wheat Board is prepared to offer is based on its selling price out of Thunder Bay, less freight. I am not sure exactly what price is being charged or set in Manitoba by the government because it seems to change that price quite frequently. I will determine the comparative levels and try to get an answer for the hon. member.

Mr. Ritchie: In view of the fact the Manitoba Feed Grains Commission set the price on barley at \$2.24 on Monday, considerably less than the Wheat Board, who has jurisdiction over the price of feed grains in the province?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, obviously that is asking for a legal conclusion.

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PENITENTIARIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT
INQUIRY INTO RIOT

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. In view of the continuing tension at the British Columbia Penitentiary and the fact that a gun was found there last weekend as well as a box of shells, will the minister reconsider his position and set up an independent inquiry into the penitentiary riot?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, as I said in the House on a previous occasion, we do not think the answer to the problem at the British Columbia Penitentiary is another inquiry. I want to say that since last weekend we have transferred out of the B.C. Penitentiary 43 inmates in addition to the 60 already transferred. Also, included in the recent number of transfers were eight of the most difficult inmates. They were transferred to other maximum security institutions across the country.

Mr. Reynolds: Can the Solicitor General advise to which maximum security institution the eight of the worst offenders were sent?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, four were transferred to the Ontario region, two who were French speaking were transferred to the Laval temporary maximum institution in Quebec and two were transferred to Dorchester, New Brunswick.

Oral Questions

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I pose to the minister the prospect that another inquiry into the penitentiary riot is not required but rather an independent inquiry into the headquarters staff of the penitentiary service here in Ottawa from where most of the problems emanate. Will the minister engage in that kind of inquiry?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, there have been many inquiries of that nature. I repeat that last week we asked for an independent inquiry into the B.C. Penitentiary by the correctional investigator. I am awaiting her report.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): In view of the apparent misinformation the minister has been supplying to members of the House, including the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta and the fact that apparently this misinformation is funnelled to the minister by his own staff, and in view of the potentially explosive situation requiring urgent attention at the B.C. Penitentiary, will he consider the prospect of an independent inquiry, not only into present conditions there but into the apparent breakdown in the administration of that penitentiary, before something really serious happens and the place becomes a parking lot after the next incident?

• (1500)

Mr. Allmand: I would be interested to know what misinformation the hon. member alleges I am giving to the House. We have been taking action at the B.C. Penitentiary. We have held two inquiries since the summer. We have transferred 100 inmates or more. I might say also that the director of the penitentiary will be retiring shortly, a new director will be appointed. Improvements are being made at the institution.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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ENERGY

LEGISLATION COVERING OIL EXPORT TAX—DATE OF
INTRODUCTION

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that notice of a ways and means motion dealing with the oil export tax has been before the House for over a month, and in light of the fact the government has been collecting this tax without the approval of parliament for 30 days, can the minister tell the House whether legislation is being prepared in this regard and when we can expect it to be brought down?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Yes, Sir, legislation is being prepared. This is one of the questions now under discussion with the government of Alberta. I would want to clarify the position taken by that government to a somewhat greater extent before we bring the matter forward for debate.