

Inquiries of the Ministry

stantially discussed with them and an answer was given to them at that time or in writing in the days which followed the meeting. I can only remind the hon. member that it was not all the Mennonites who were requesting this. It was, I believe, a very small sect of them on behalf of whom the ones I met were talking. They were making representations on behalf of a much smaller group.

GRAIN**WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—
LONG-TERM EFFECTS**

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): My question is directed to the Prime Minister. Was the Minister of Agriculture stating government policy when he indicated he believed that the Lift program, which basically asks the farmers to give up one year of income, would have beneficial long-term effects?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is seeking to confirm whether a statement made by a minister expressing an opinion or a belief, does in fact represent government policy. I have some difficulty considering this as a question which can be accepted procedurally. The hon. member might like to rephrase the question.

Mr. Yewchuk: I will try to rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Prime Minister indicate whether he agrees that the principle of asking a farmer, through the Lift program, to give up one year of income is now government policy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, it is not, Mr. Speaker. I am afraid the member does not understand the policy.

Mr. Yewchuk: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. A couple of nights ago the Minister of Agriculture indicated on television that he felt the Lift program, which basically asks the farmer to give up one year of income, will have beneficial long-term effects for the farmers involved. Does the Prime Minister agree with this?

Mr. Speaker: I had the impression this would be a supplementary question by the hon. member. I did not want to complicate matters. This is why I allowed the question. I was not sure if the hon. member was satisfied with the reply he received and a further supplementary question was allowed.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

[Later:]

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, I want to try another supplementary. In view of the fact that the Minister of Agriculture has expressed the view that the Lift program, which asks the farmer to give up a year of income, will have beneficial, long-term effects, would the Prime Minister and his colleagues, as a show of faith in these people, be willing to give up one year of their income to see whether that will have beneficial long-term effects?

Mr. Trudeau: I repeat, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member obviously does not understand anything about the whole Lift program. The object is not to have the farmer give up a year of income but to have him curtail his production for a year and receive compensation. It is only \$100 million we are offering. I know this is only crumbs to the opposition; however, we think this is an important contribution to the farmer.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

MANPOWER**STUDENT SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM—
GRANTS TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY**

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

The minister has announced today his plan to help students during the summer months. Is he ready to grant subsidies or provide incentives to private enterprise, in order to encourage the hiring of students during the holidays?

[English]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, in a very public spirited program, has undertaken the commitment on its own, without subsidy, to encourage employers to take on over 600,000 students this summer. I think that this is the best way to proceed at this time. I hope the response among employer members across the country will be as effective as if we came forward with a subsidy program for them.

DRUGS**INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF LE DAIN
COMMISSION**

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): I have a question for the Minister of Nation-