

Inquiries of the Ministry

Board. As found on page 5158 of *Hansard*, I asked the minister if he would table in the House the contents of letters and other communications concerning the proposed inclusion of rapeseed, rye and flax under the Canadian Wheat Board Act. Is he now prepared to table the contents of those letters?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I do not have them here with me now, but I am looking into the matter.

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OIL**PROPOSED TANKER ROUTE BETWEEN ALASKA AND WEST COAST STATES—PROTECTION OF CANADIAN ENVIRONMENT**

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister arising from a statement made in Anchorage, Alaska, by the Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to the effect that Canada would be prepared to accept the west coast oil tanker route provided that full protection is given to the Canadian environment in adjacent regions. May I ask the right hon. gentleman what he would consider to be full protection of the Canadian environment if an oil tanker route were established between Alaska and the more southerly states of the United States?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might like to rephrase his question. He has asked the Prime Minister to express an opinion and I would not think that in those terms the question is in order. I know that the matter is important. Perhaps the hon. member might like to rephrase his inquiry.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could rephrase the question this way: can the Prime Minister say whether Canada has officially indicated to the United States the terms and conditions which this country feels would be acceptable for the establishment of an oil tanker route on the Pacific between Alaska and other states of the United States?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am rather sure that Canada has not because we would not be empowered under law or writ to tell the United States how it can move oil on the high seas. I will have to look into the speech to which the hon. member referred and perhaps, ask the minister to answer the question in due course.

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ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY**INQUIRY AS TO REFERENCE OF CARR REPORT TO TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Jim McNulty (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Transport if the Carr report will be referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications for study?

[Mr. Murta.]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would have no objection to that procedure at the appropriate time. We have released the report generally for consideration and discussion. If, after some of these representations are in, it appears that there is merit in having it discussed by the committee, certainly I would be more than pleased if that were done.

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GRAIN**WHEAT—TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS TO FARMERS**

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Is he now in a position to inform the House when and how the \$100 million will be paid to the farmers? Will it be paid on an acreage basis and how much per acre will be paid? Who will be able to receive payments?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the legislation is before the House. When the payments are to be made will depend, of course, upon the passage of that legislation. I hope that the payments can be made very quickly after royal assent has been given to the legislation. The qualifications of persons and the basis of the payments are all contained in the legislation.

Mr. Horner: I wish to pursue this a little further. Will the minister not consider making the payments even before the legislation is passed? This money is urgently required before seeding, and the minister took so long to introduce the legislation. It should have been introduced months ago.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT**BILINGUAL DISTRICTS—AMENDMENTS OF STATUTE TO INCLUDE URBAN CENTRES**

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): My question is for the Prime Minister. Is it the intention of the government to bring in amendments to the Official Languages Act to give effect to the recommendation of the Bilingual Districts Advisory Board so that certain major urban centres in Canada which are now excluded from becoming bilingual districts may become bilingual districts?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The Secretary of State has explained to the House that, the report having been tabled, the government is now studying it and that no action can be taken before the expiration of 90 days. Until that time expires, the government cannot legally take any action. By then we will have studied the report, and we will make such announcements as are required in due course.

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Does the Prime Minister not agree that, apart from the actual implementa-