

Oral Questions

scientific tests with regard to saccharin. Furthermore, we are not banning saccharin as is the case in the United States; we are simply putting it where it belongs, in drug stores.

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INDUSTRY**PROPOSED GRANTS TO PERMIT DEVELOPMENT OF NEW DIET PRODUCTS**

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that industries everywhere in Canada are facing at best difficult times, particularly in rural ridings such as mine, is the government prepared to offer incentives and grants so that these particular companies can research and develop new diet products and so that this industry may thrive and continue to provide jobs?

Hon. Jack H. Horner (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce does offer grants for new initiatives and new products. Companies can apply to either the Ontario or federal enterprise development board.

REQUEST FOR INTRODUCTION OF SUGAR POLICY

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In light of the fact that representation has been made by myself on behalf of Alberta sugar beet growers to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Minister of Agriculture and the stabilization board regarding the closing of the sugar factory at Picture Butte, Alberta and in view of the fact that we produce only 10 per cent of the sugar we consume in Canada, would the minister assure the House today, prior to my meeting tomorrow in Vancouver with Canadian sugar producers, that he will bring in immediately a sugar policy to save this valuable industry?

Hon. Jack H. Horner (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, we have a sugar policy. Sugar beet growing in southern Alberta is assisted by the federal government, and it is my information that there will be no reduction in acreage because of the closing of that one plant.

Mr. Hurlburt: Mr. Speaker, I have a short supplementary question. In light of the fact that sugar beet growers in southern Alberta are not going to be pleased with the answer I just received and that this government refuses to act when it comes to a meat import law, which forces many cattlemen into bankruptcy, is this the plan the government has for the sugar producer?

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, with regard to a meat import law I can assure the hon. member that that matter is in good hands, and there will be one for the year 1978.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Mlle Bégin.]

Mr. Horner: The hon. member has nothing to worry about in that regard.

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AIRPORTS**VICTORIA—INSTALLATION OF RADAR**

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. It is related to the recently published expansion plans for Victoria International Airport, presumably on the ground that more traffic is expected. During the past 15 months there have been at least 14 air traffic incidents at that airport including four accidents in which eight people lost their lives, four of those fatalities having happened within the last 30 days. Those accidents and incidents could certainly have been avoided had radar been installed. Do the plans which are being made include installing radar at Victoria International Airport, or are there plans apart from those which are now being made involving the installation of radar there?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, our ordinary practice is to develop long-range plans for airports and to provide facilities step by step. That is the case with Victoria International Airport, as it is with any other. However, I think the hon. member was being somewhat misleading in suggesting that these specific incidents were related to the absence of radar.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I was not being misleading. I want to make it quite clear that when the fatal accidents did occur the aircraft involved were beyond the sight of the Vancouver control tower and within sight of the Victoria tower. Therefore, I wonder if the minister will now give me the report he promised almost a year ago about plans for installing radar at Victoria International Airport.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I have given the hon. member everything I promised to give him. He does a disservice by suggesting that he knows the cause of aircraft incidents and the way in which they could be avoided without knowing the findings of thorough investigations of those incidents. The hon. member raises this matter in this House without giving me notice of the fact he is going to speak about specific instances so that I can add some light.

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COMMUNICATIONS**POSSIBILITY OF FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE—
MINISTER'S POSITION ON SEPARATE AGREEMENT WITH EACH PROVINCE**

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Communications. The minister of communications of the province of Quebec appears to be interested in discussing administrative arrangements on the