

week we again made an offer to another business concern, which will open in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and which will also manufacture small refrigerators. These two firms are going to be of a highly specialized character. They are going to satisfy the needs of the Canadian market and also those of an export market.

In the case of the firm to which the hon. member is referring, its production will be exported mainly to the United States to replace products that are already being exported there from Italy by a similar firm. We then expect to conquer this American market with products manufactured in Canada, and the result of which will naturally be the creation of jobs in our country.

[English]

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. The minister says that the Merloni group will be aimed at the export market. In view of information given to me by his department to the effect that only 50 per cent of their production will be in the export field and in view of the fact that markets in Canada are soft at the moment, can the minister tell the House what steps he has taken to guarantee that the company will not be taking Canadian money and then making sales in an already soft Canadian market which can only exacerbate employment conditions in Canada?

[Translation]

Mr. Lessard: There is indeed a guarantee which has been required from this firm. It is that it will not manufacture refrigerators of nine cubic feet or more already being produced in Canada or which were manufactured here till recently. This firm will specialize in small refrigerators and it has given us assurances that it will restrict its production, at least for a given number of years, to these small refrigerators. The market it is seeking as a target is largely American, and it naturally entails possible access to part of the Canadian market.

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● (1502)

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONTRIBUTION OF FEED GRAIN TO WORLD FOOD BANK— REQUEST FOR DETAILS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has Canada agreed or offered to supply some 50,000 tons of feed grain to the proposed emergency world food bank that was in the news some months ago? If so, is the minister prepared to say when that emergency food bank will be in operation?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question. As a result, I can tell him that the 50,000 tons, costing about \$7½ million, which I announced at the United Nations is part of a total amount in the

Ministerial Responsibility

emergency food reserve of the 500,000 tons. Therefore, our percentage is 10 per cent. This is only about one per cent of the total of nearly 50 million tons of wheat and flour which went into world export trade last year. In terms of any impact it is likely to have on pricing, it is generally regarded by all concerned as being minimal or insignificant.

With regard to the timing, I am not clear as to whether this will be put in at one particular time or how it is going to be drawn from the overall worldwide fund. However, the agency acting for Canada in this regard will be CIDA.

Mr. Murta: The important aspect of the minister's answer is who pays for the grain. This is what the western grain farmer wants to know. Can the minister advise whether that money will go from the federal government to the wheat board to be paid to the Canadian farmer or will it come from CIDA? What method does the government intend to follow in terms of payment?

Mr. Jamieson: If I understood the hon. member, the situation is as he described it, namely CIDA is the purchasing agent. It is a purchase from the wheat board in the normal fashion.

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PRIVILEGE

MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS— RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question of privilege and a point of order was taken a few days ago. I was asked by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar to find disorder, and by the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton to find privilege as a result of events which took place during the question period on November 28. I would like to try briefly to deal with that matter now. It arose out of questions put initially by the right hon. member for Prince Albert to the Solicitor General, but in his absence, and I quote:

—I would like to direct a question to the Acting Solicitor General, namely, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs—

Subsequently, when that first question was answered by the Minister of Justice, a supplementary question was asked. He said, "The Minister of Justice was one of the two applicants along with the Solicitor General and being the custodian of the Queen's conscience, if the Solicitor General was asked to appear, what would happen?" The third question by the right hon. member was whether the government or the Minister of Justice was going to take a decision. The first supplementary by the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot was in the following terms:

Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to the acting minister who, according to the *Journals* branch, is the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. However, I suppose pro tem it is the Minister of Justice.

The points of order and question of privilege ask me to find that that is against our procedures. I bring to the attention of