

what determines the accuracy of the legislation. We should not blame these errors on the drafters of the legislation. They are very expert people. It is the Government of Canada that does not know what it is doing.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) has a very short question or comment?

Mr. Nystrom: The Member has talked very eloquently about employment equity. All I want to know is why the Liberal Party did not introduce the concept of employment equity when it forward the Government?

Mr. Baker: We were responsible for the Human Rights Act, the Charter, and what is called human rights equity in employment throughout the Public Service, and it has been decimated by this Government. The Bill before the House is totally deficient. It should have been the logical conclusion to what was set before and done by the previous Government. The Hon. Member knows that the Liberal Party has stood by people as far as employment equity is concerned. It is this Government which has not fulfilled its mandate.

• (1800)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 66 deemed to have been moved.

AGRICULTURE—FUNDING OF COLOURED DAIRY CATTLE RESEARCH. (B) APPROVAL OF PRODUCT

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, on April 7, I asked the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) why the federal Government was providing some \$10 million to a group of rich American investors called Dreamstreet Limited to do some phoney research on dairy cattle. It was in relation to whether Holstein cattle were black and white or red and white. The Minister, in responding to my question, essentially said that he did not know too much about it, that in fact he had received representation on both sides of the issue and had asked for advice from the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada.

I pointed out in my supplementary question that Dr. Réjean Bouchard, the Co-ordinator of Animal Research, said in a statement to the press: "Everyone who was consulted on the project walked away from it". I asked why the Minister was trying to put these Dreamstreet people, the rich investors from Wall Street, on easy street with \$10 million of Canadian taxpayers' money. The Minister then completely welched on the matter and said that he had not approved it, that it was approved by the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. MacKay). He was obviously trying to put the responsibility on Holstein Canada, but it seems to me that it is not its responsibility. It is

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the responsibility of the Government to decide whether the project goes forward and \$10 million of the taxpayers' money is used for essentially a laundering process to recycle Canadian taxpayers' money to the United States.

If the Minister reads the response of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, which put out a press release on April 7, he will find that the secrecy of the project is inappropriate, that a comparison of red and white Holsteins with black and white Holsteins is not in itself worth undertaking, that the current project description is not adequate nor relevant to the current and future business of dairy farming in Canada and that the project must provide substantial direct benefit to Canadian Holstein breeders.

I talked with David Clemens a few days after putting the question and he said as the project had been approved, it was really garbage and had no research benefits. I understand that the Holstein-Friesian Association would like to see the project reconstituted to be of some value, but at the same time we do have \$10 million of taxpayers' money committed to Dreamstreet to do some research. Farmers are very upset and concerned about this. They say that if the Government has this kind of money to do unnecessary research, why does it not have adequate research funds to do worth-while projects for agriculture.

We ask ourselves why the Minister put pressure on the Department of National Revenue to approve this project. We heard it was turned down three or four times. Or was it the Prime Minister's Office which put the pressure on the Department of National Revenue? Who is Dreamstreet? There have been a lot of reports. We received one report from a farmer who said he had heard that in 1984, it was a company which was some \$11 million in debt in the United States and it had to reorganize. There is a story in the March edition of the *Holstein-Friesian World* of a sale at Hyperian Farms in New York State where some 37 lots of cattle were sold for \$9 million. One animal actually sold for \$1.5 million. However, when it was checked a month later, it was found no money had ever changed hands. No pedigrees were ever exchanged.

What kind of a scam was going on there as reported in the *Holstein-Friesian World*? What kind of scam is going on in Canada today? What farmers are concerned about is that dozens and dozens, perhaps even hundreds, of farmers will be left holding the bag, having sold animals, having them left on their farms and not receiving payment for them. We must really ask ourselves: Is it appropriate that the Government of Canada is spending \$10 million to set up the largest dairy herd in Canada, owned by an American investment group from New York State?

• (1805)

In the end, I think we will find out that this is the largest hoax which has even been perpetrated on the dairy industry in Canada, and on the Holstein-Friesian Association. It seems that the Minister is sitting on his hands and making no decisions. He is doing nothing to stop this scam. He should