

Oral Questions

[Translation]

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Could the hon. minister tell us whether federal government officials intend to meet the Olympic games representatives before February 3 and perhaps negotiate financial assistance with them?

[English]

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, with regard to the latter part of the question, the government's position has not changed. There have already been and I would anticipate there would be further communications with the organizing committee.

[Translation]

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—REQUEST BY CITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question.

Did the authorities of the city of Montreal and the people responsible for the Olympic games request grants one way or another from the federal government?

[English]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, they have asked for leave to issue some coins and stamps and things of that sort which I described as non-financial requests.

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—INQUIRY AS TO REQUEST BY CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. Does the Secretary of State have a request from the CBC for additional financing of between \$40 million and \$50 million so the CBC can handle coverage of the Olympic games?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Nowlan: Would the minister take it upon himself to discuss this matter with the president of the CBC so that a consortium of the CBC and the CTV, using the best of both networks and thus keeping the cost down, can provide the sort of service for which there was a precedent at Munich in the last Olympic games?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, I have already had some discussions with the president of the CBC on this and other matters.

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GRAIN

WHEAT—FORM OF POSSIBLE CHANGE IN PAYMENT UNDER TWO-PRICE SYSTEM

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. Is the minister considering changes at

[Mr. Basford.]

present in the pay-out under the two-price wheat system to western farmers. If so, what form would the changes take?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, we have received some representations from farm organizations in connection with this matter and we are giving consideration to those representations.

Mr. Murta: As the minister is giving consideration to those requests, can he inform us when the decision will be made? Also, if it is to be made, will it be made in such a way that the distribution will be more acceptable to wheat producers and not strictly as a political gimmick to entice western farmers to vote a certain way?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will appreciate that a question asked in those terms is not in order.

PROVISION OF INCENTIVE TO FEED GRAIN AND OILSEED GROWERS TO MAINTAIN MARKETS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether he will also give consideration to providing some incentive to growers of feed grains and oilseed so that the markets for those commodities that have already been established will not be lost in the coming year?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the various farm organizations have also made comments on this subject. We are earnestly examining the question to make sure that farmers in the prairie region continue to produce rapeseed and feed grains in adequate volumes so that we can sustain the very important export markets that we have developed. We are not at all sure at this stage what form the action to try to assure this will take. Certainly, action in bringing information to the attention of farmers will form an important part of what is done. We do anticipate, prior to March 1, making information available to the farmers of western Canada on initial prices and on expected sales prospects.

Mr. Korchinski: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. At least 25 hon. members are seeking to ask supplementaries on this subject. That could keep us busy all day. There are five minutes left before the end of the question period. I am prepared to recognize supplementaries on this matter and then call orders of the day. The hon. member for Mackenzie.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, has the minister made a firm resolve to discuss this matter with the Minister of Agriculture who apparently is advocating the growing of more wheat? Is the minister responsible for the Wheat Board advocating the growing of coarse grains? Has this question been resolved, or will this kind of decision be forthcoming before spring?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister of Agriculture and I agree that there are tremendous opportunities for exports of wheat at the present time. We are also determined to try to make sure that adequate volumes of