

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):

The government's program as announced entails a basic distribution of functions as between federal and provincial responsibilities. Inasmuch as the provinces already exercise a responsibility for quotas and price levels of fluid milk the fluid milk producer and his support are clearly and primarily a provincial responsibility. I believe that the distribution of responsibilities, with the provinces assuming the responsibility for support of the fluid milk producer and the federal government assuming responsibility for the support of the manufacturing milk producer, will in the long run serve the best interests of the dairy farmers of Canada.

Mr. Olson: Could the minister tell the house what he has heard from those provinces which have no subsidy program for surplus fluid milk? Will the federal or provincial governments give relief in the near future to take care of this deficiency, now that the subsidy has been removed?

Mr. Greene: Mr. Speaker, of course I cannot speak for the provinces. I believe that all provinces or provincial agencies set the price of fluid milk, and that either the provincial government or one of its agencies sets the quota. If any province in its wisdom, as happened in Ontario this past year, feels that it wishes to subsidize fluid milk producers at figures over and above their production quotas, and basic prices, that of course is a decision that must be made by that province's government.

Mr. H. A. Moore (Wetaskiwin): Is the minister aware that this new policy is causing an increase in the price of bottled milk sold on the street?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is an argument and not a question.

[Translation]

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**REASON FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF ABOLITION LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he inform the house why he intends to have reconsidered the decision taken by the house on capital punishment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think this question is in order.

[Mr. Olson.]

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS RESPECTING BAD CHEQUES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): My question is addressed to the Minister of Justice; I apologize for not having given him notice but perhaps he will take this as notice. Would the minister look into the relevant sections of the Criminal Code to see whether something could be done to tighten up the provisions relating to N.S.F. cheques?

Mr. Speaker: I think this is a question which might well be placed on the order paper.

GRAIN**PROTEST AGAINST SLOW MOVEMENT FROM LAKEHEAD**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): I have a question for the Minister of Transport with regard to negotiations which were under way last week between the great lakes shipping companies and the Canadian Wheat Board. Can the minister say whether these negotiations have been successfully concluded, or whether grain is still not moving from the lakehead positions?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): I am not sure whether the one situation would follow from the other. I regret to say that since this is not primarily my ministerial responsibility I did not make special inquiries this morning with regard to the matter. But I will.

NATIONAL PARKS**REQUEST FOR POLICY STATEMENT RESPECTING EXPANSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of recent remarks by the minister about the desirability of extending our national parks may I ask whether the hon. gentleman has any new legislation in mind which would give expression to these new ideas?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I can assure the hon. member that we intend at the new session to introduce a measure with respect to parks, and we are in negotiation with a number of provinces looking toward additional parks in Canada.