

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Sharp:** It made its point and then cast its vote with the others.

\* \* \*

**AGRICULTURE**

**CORN—MEETING WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS OR INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TO FIND SOLUTION TO DIFFICULTIES—GOVERNMENT APPROVAL OF PROPOSALS**

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture since it deals with the livelihood of many citizens. In view of the fact that the market value of the Canadian commercial corn crop has continued to drop by \$1 million to \$2 million per week, can the minister state whether he has invited the Ministers of Agriculture of the provinces involved or representatives of the industry to meet with him to submit a solution, and if any proposals have been made have they met with government approval?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I have had a number of meetings with representatives or people from the corn producing area. There are a number of proposals that we think are valid, and they relate in particular to programs to build more storage and elevator facilities. However, one other suggestion is that we impose a value for duty or surtax on corn, and the fact of the matter is that the Canadian price at the moment is some eight or nine cents per bushel lower than competitive United States corn in Montreal.

**STUDY OF FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF GRAIN HANDLING FACILITY ON LAKE ERIE**

**Mr. Mac T. McCutcheon (Lambton-Kent):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the government agreed to launch a study as to the feasibility of establishing a grain handling facility in southern Ontario on Lake Erie in order to take advantage of water transportation from that area?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** We have not agreed to launch a new study but some studies have been made in regard to a grain handling facility at Erieau, and the results of those studies, of course, are well known to the hon. member.

[Translation]

**EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTER RESPECTING DIFFICULTIES OF QUEBEC POTATO GROWERS**

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

May I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether his Quebec counterpart wrote to him with regard to the present problems of the potato producers?

**Mr. Speaker:** I doubt that the question is in order as a supplementary. I feel that it is not strictly supplementary; but the question having been put, perhaps the minister might be allowed to answer it immediately.

[Mr. Sharp.]

[English]

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** No, Mr. Speaker, not that I can remember, but I will check to see whether we have had such a letter.

\* \* \*

**HEALTH**

**SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS AND FACILITIES FOR TRAINING—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare having to do with the national health conference held last Friday. Dr. Evans, dean of medicine at McMaster University, has called for the immediate training of more Canadian doctors and the building of more medical schools so that Canada will not continue to deny her qualified young people the opportunity of becoming doctors, and has stated that we should stop trying to plug the gap by relying on foreign trained doctors. In view of this statement, is the minister now prepared to act on this evidence presented by Dr. Evans and other experts, and earlier by the Canadian Medical Association, by building more medical schools in Canada and operating them on a year-round basis instead of only nine months in the year?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, we are spending several millions of dollars on building new medical schools. With regard to some of the other recommendations referred to by the hon. member, such as keeping our established medical schools and the very expensive facilities in the new ones that we are building open year round, and enlarging classes in terms of the number of people taught, these are all matters that should be looked into very closely by the medical schools and the provinces. Dean Evans would be an appropriate person to implement policies of that kind.

• (2:40 p.m.)

**Mr. Rynard:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to know whether the minister believes or does not believe there is a shortage of doctors?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Rynard:** I want an answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is inviting the minister to indicate whether in his opinion he believes there is a shortage of doctors, and I do not think that question is in order.

**Mr. McCleave:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. The hon. member, who is one of the most respected members of the House, has tried for five days to be recognized in order to ask this question. He has asked the government whether it recognizes that there is a crisis in respect of a shortage of medically trained people in this country and he is entitled to an answer.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I appreciate that the hon. member, like every hon. member, is a very respected member of this chamber.