

*Inquiries of the Ministry***CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN****IMMEDIATE INTRODUCTION OF AMENDMENTS TO ASSIST PROVINCES TO MEET WELFARE PAYMENTS**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): My question is addressed to the Prime Minister. Last Thursday the Prime Minister would not say what the government was going to do about reforming the Canadian Assistance Plan because he wanted to have an opportunity to discuss the whole matter with the provinces. Does this mean that the government is prepared to reform the Canada Assistance Plan and to pay out more money to the provinces this winter to help finance their added welfare costs?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Not at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Ryan: In light of the fact that Bill C-259 will not affect the economy immediately, is the government considering changing its legislative priorities and bringing forward tax cuts, FISP and CAP reforms now?

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker. The House knows that the taxation reform bill is the one which has great urgency and that we still want to keep it before the House as much as possible and get it through as soon as possible. But as the House leader has indicated, when that bill has been dealt with we hope there will be sufficient time to deal with other matters, including some that are suggested by the hon. member.

• (3:00 p.m.)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**PROPOSED AMCHITKA NUCLEAR TEST—REQUEST FOR ACTION BY CANADA AT UNITED NATIONS TO HALT BLAST**

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the need for urgent and immediate action to stop the proposed nuclear test at Amchitka Island early in October, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs consider having the Canadian delegation at the United Nations present a resolution to the General Assembly calling for a halt to the proposed nuclear test by the United States at Amchitka Island?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. gentleman and the House that the Canadian government will be pressing as hard as it can for the stopping of all tests of all kinds by the Soviet Union, by France, by China, and by the United States, including the Amchitka test which is the largest.

Mr. Harding: Mr. Speaker, will this request be made at the United Nations before the proposed test blast takes place early in October?

Mr. Sharp: I shall certainly be speaking before that date.

AGRICULTURE**CORN—REQUEST FOR POLICY STATEMENT ON DECLINE IN MARKETS**

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Agriculture. When may we expect the Minister of Agriculture back in the House, and is the government prepared at this time to indicate its policy with regard to representations made on the very serious decline in corn markets in Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the Minister of Agriculture is busy with Japanese trade missions in western Canada and will be back in the House within a couple of days. I am not sure when he will make a statement on that particular item, but I will bring the hon. member's question to his attention.

[Later:]

Mr. Lang: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wish to apologize to the House. Earlier I referred to the Minister of Agriculture meeting with Japanese trade missions at the present time. I understand now that those meetings are finished and that he is presently visiting important agricultural areas in Ontario.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**POSSIBILITY OF COMPLETING ITEMS ON ORDER PAPER BEFORE END OF SESSION**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the government House leader. In view of the exchange earlier about House business, is it the intention of the government to complete consideration of all the business on the order paper before this session ends and does the government intend, before this session ends, to introduce any new legislative proposals?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am not even equipped with short-range forecasting equipment, like the Minister of Finance.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Thank heavens for that.

Mr. MacEachen: I find it difficult to forecast even what will happen in the chamber. The answer will depend a good deal on what does happen here. With all that qualifying uncertainty, I would like to advise the hon. member that before ending this session we propose to try to clear off the order paper all the items that have advanced to the report stage. It is not planned at the moment to introduce any new legislation to be dealt with before the end of the session.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, maybe I could advise the House that in order to change the atmosphere I would like to announce that for tomorrow I will be calling Bill C-244.