

Oral Questions

in order to determine whether there is anything additional by way of information that is required.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I heard the answer given by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It does not explain how the Canadian government can insist on adequate safeguards with application to a private company which has the power to manufacture CANDU reactors in another country and export them. I want to ask the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs this question: if the main safeguard, in the view of the government, is supervision by the International Atomic Energy Agency, is he satisfied, in the light of the fact that by the end of this year there will be some 650 nuclear reactors in 38 countries while the International Atomic Agency has less than 70 nuclear scientists on its staff, that this type of inspection provides adequate safeguards against the misuse of plutonium produced from nuclear reactors? Is the government satisfied that this type of inspection provides Canadians and the world with adequate safeguards?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: Several questions have been directed to me by the hon. gentleman. As the House is aware, Canada has been trying to get international standards upgraded, so I can say we are not satisfied with the standards which now prevail, in that sense. As to the precise form of the safeguards we have applied to this technology to a co-operating company, I must take the question as notice and get an answer later.

SUGGESTED SUSPENSION OF SALE OF CANDU REACTORS
PENDING IMPROVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I thank the minister for his reply, particularly when he says the government is not satisfied with the present international safeguard standards. In view of the fact that agreements similar to the one which is now being negotiated with Italy are also being negotiated with Rumania and Argentina, I ask the government whether they are prepared to stop either the licensing or the export of CANDU reactors until such time as they are satisfied with the international safeguards.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): I cannot answer that question positively because I am very much impressed, as I think we all are, by the facts which have been put forward by the hon. gentleman, namely, that nuclear energy is being spread all over the world and it is absolutely essential that we should not find ourselves caught, as we did recently, by reliance on one source of power which is concentrated too much in one area. So I support my Prime Minister by saying we believe it is important that the advantages of nuclear energy be available throughout the world in order to improve standards of living in other countries. This is something with which I would hope the NDP would agree.

[Mr. Sharp.]

GRAIN

WHEAT—POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL SALES TO RUSSIA

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. In view of the current wheat sale from Canada to Russia and the fact that we sold some 74 million bushels of wheat to Russia in the past few days—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Murta: I do not think the Liberal party would want to take credit for a crop failure in Russia, so I do not know what they are applauding about.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): You would have been over there announcing it from Moscow!

Mr. Murta: In view of possible further grain sales, especially to the United States, I want to ask the minister whether the Wheat Board is still continuing to hold negotiations with Russia with a view to further grain sales from Canada to Russia in the very near future.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): I presume that when the hon. member referred to grain sales from Canada to the United States he was talking about sales made by Canada to Russia. Just as this sale was evidence of the extremely good relationship between Canada and the U.S.S.R. with regard to trading in wheat, that relationship will stand us in good stead in the course of further negotiations. The Wheat Board is, in effect, constantly in touch with buyers in the U.S.S.R.

* * *

LABOUR CONDITIONS

PROPOSED SINGLE BARGAINING AGENT FOR PUBLIC
SERVICE—METHOD BY WHICH SERVICES OF MR. JOE MORRIS
OBTAINED

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Yesterday, my colleague, the hon. member for High Park-Humber Valley asked a question about the fragmentation of union power within the Public Service. The minister replied, as reported at page 7657 of *Hansard*:

There is a general disposition to try to achieve this type of objective. I might say we have achieved something along these lines already. I have indicated in the House before that Mr. Joe Morris, President of the Canadian Labour Congress, has already met with people in the grain handling area to achieve this type of consultation.

My question to the minister is this: with respect to the instance to which he referred yesterday, is that as a result of the formation of the Canadian Labour Council which the minister discussed in the House previously, and if not, was it merely an ad hoc arrangement made by members of his own department trying to obtain the good services of Mr. Morris in this direction?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): It was due to several factors, the principal one being that when the CLC made its presentation here a few months ago the