

*Water Resources Programs***GRAIN****COMPENSATION TO FARMERS FOR QUANTITY LOSS IN UNHARVESTED CROPS CAUSED BY MICE, DEER, ETC.**

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the substantial acreage of grain that remained unharvested last fall in western Canada because of wet weather and snow and the resulting serious loss in quantity caused by mice, deer and other wildlife, which has now become apparent in spring harvest operations, what provisions, if any, is the government making under PFAA or some other means to compensate farmers for these serious losses?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Any townships that were not harvested last fall, or many of those townships, were inspected this spring, and the amount of actual yield per acre after all of these factors are taken into account is what the PFAA estimates or awards are based on. So I suggest that, in so far as PFAA is concerned, that is automatic when they take into account the yields that were actually obtained from these fields this spring.

• (3:00 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**WATER RESOURCES****PROVISION FOR MANAGEMENT INCLUDING RESEARCH AND PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS**

The House resumed, from Thursday, May 21, consideration of Bill C-144, to provide for the management of the water resources of Canada including research and the planning and implementation of programs relating to the conservation, development and utilization of water resources, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works, motion No. 7 (Mr. Comeau) and motion No. 14 (Mr. Harding).

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, I rise to take part very briefly in this debate as the result of a statement attributed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Greene) which appeared in this morning's *Globe and Mail*.

Before I come to that, I would like to say that in the Committee on National Resources and Public Works, where this bill was being

discussed clause by clause, the members of all opposition parties endeavoured by every means at their disposal to amend this bill by making provision for national water standards for comparable bodies of water. On every occasion when these amendments were introduced, the government members of our committee used every device to thwart the introduction of this proposal, indicating that it was against the wishes of the minister, against his policy and the statement he had previously made.

The hon. member for South Western Nova (Mr. Comeau) and the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding) have amendments which are essentially the same. Now, at this stage of the bill, we are endeavouring to have these amendments placed in the legislation, having failed to do so in the committee. In support of that endeavour, I would like to read, if I may, from this morning's issue of the *Globe and Mail* in which the minister is reported to have made the following statement:

We shall have to maintain some very strong federal inputs in the authorities to assure that standards for comparable bodies of water will be the same in all parts of Canada.

Surely, this is the identical view we were trying to get the government to accept in the committee. The minister having said that, it must make it very easy for all members of the government to support the two motions now before the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question on motion No. 7?

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): I would like to make a few comments on the two motions which are before the House, namely, motions Nos. 7 and 14. Both of them deal with the need for national standards for different bodies of water all across Canada. Needless to say, the reason that the Conservative party and our own party have moved these amendments to bring in national standards is that the minister, his department and the government, have not seen fit to bring in national standards for the various bodies of water in Canada.

I would like to join those who have expressed their disappointment in the government not moving along these lines simply because our fight against the water pollution problem in Canada will not be too successful unless we establish some type of national standards for the various bodies of water mentioned by previous speakers. I feel that