

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

grain situation, particularly with regard to the corn supply in the United States this year and possibly the corn seed supply there next year?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** The Wheat Board keeps very closely informed on world market conditions in every respect, and this includes the situation in regard to supplies and probable supplies from the United States.

**Mr. Thomson:** Would any recommendations that the Wheat Board might make be available to the task force which will be meeting in November, the reason being that we might want to grow different crops next year?

**Mr. Lang:** I presume the hon. member is referring to the agricultural congress. It would, I am sure, be the hope of my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, that a good deal of information may be made available at that time, and when it is it will become available to hon. members.

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[Translation]

**INDUSTRY**

## TEXTILES—APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COMMISSION

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Would he tell the House when the government has the intention of creating the Textiles Commission?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the three members of this Commission have now been selected, and all we need before announcing these appointments is to have the Governor General's consent. I want to point out that the Commission will operate for the time being, under the legislation governing my department. Therefore it will not have the powers to inquire into various matters until the law is introduced and passed later this session.

I am sure the Commission, once it is created, will immediately start to work because it will have extremely important problems to study.

[English]

[Later:]

## TEXTILES—COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION

**Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question supplementary to the last one asked of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Will the new textile commission also be representative of the trade?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I made sure that the commission would not be representative of the trade in the sense that it would be made spokesmen for employers or employees. The commission will be made up of people extremely well informed on these matters but with a

[Mr. Thomson.]

more general background. I do not think it would have been wise to select people on the basis of representation of the different sectors of the industry. Such a step would damage the credibility that the commission is expected to achieve in the true interests of Canada, its reputation for objectivity in world trade circles.

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**IMMIGRATION**

## REFERENCE OF WHITE PAPER AND AMENDMENTS TO APPEAL BOARD ACT TO COMMITTEE

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** My question is to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. A few moments ago he referred to matters dealing with immigration to be brought before the House. Can he tell the House whether the proposed white paper on immigration and the amendments to the Immigration Appeal Board Act will be brought in simultaneously and referred to the committee and whether this will be done at an early date so that positive action can be taken with regard to the Immigration Appeal Board?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Work is going forward in regard to both matters. No decision has been taken about the timing and whether they should be brought in simultaneously. Certainly I am as concerned as the hon. member about these matters.

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**FISHERIES**

## CLOSURE OF CERTAIN WATERS TO FOREIGN FISHERMEN—DISCUSSIONS WITH FRANCE AND UNITED STATES

**Mr. Thomas S. Barneit (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who apparently has been called out of the chamber, so I will bring it to the attention of the Prime Minister. It arises from the fact that in the House yesterday the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry said that he hoped the fishery closing lines on our two coasts, east and west, would be proclaimed very soon, which was essentially the same answer that he gave to the committee last spring. Are general negotiations being pressed with France in such a manner as to clarify and expedite the proclamation on the Atlantic coast? Also, is the position of the United States with regard to a certain portion of the Alaska boundary complicating the situation on the Pacific coast and, if so, are we pressing negotiations with the United States in a way that would lead to an early proclamation of the lines in the interests of the survival of fish?

[Translation]

**Mr. André Ouellet (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I will take this question as notice, Mr. Speaker.