

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ASSURANCE THAT INDIA HAS NOT PRODUCED  
WEAPON-GRADE PLUTONIUM

**Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is he now in a position to reply to my question of last Thursday, January 14, when I asked for an assurance that India has not produced weapon-grade plutonium since the Canada-India reactor was supplied in 1960?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. In the 1956 Canada-India agreement for the provision of a nuclear research reactor the Indian government pledged that the reactor and the products resulting from its use would be used for peaceful purposes only. We have no evidence to suggest that the Indian government is not standing firm on the assurances it has given to Canada.

**Mr. Ryan:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware of the article by John Gellner in which he alleges that there is such a stockpile—

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

\* \* \*

## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

## REPORT ON BUSINESS OUTLOOK IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. It relates partly to the rosy picture which he and other ministers have painted during the past couple of days about employment possibilities. Has he seen a report which I received today from the government of the province of British Columbia about that province's business outlook for 1971, which points out that of 300 businessmen surveyed 65 per cent say there is going to be no improvement in employment this year?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is asking the minister whether he has seen a certain report. A question in those terms is not quite acceptable.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to rephrase the question. Has the provincial government been in communication with the minister pointing out these facts?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** No, Mr. Speaker.

\* \* \*

## GRAIN

PARTICIPATION OF WHEAT BOARD COMMISSIONERS AND  
FARM ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES IN NEGOTIA-  
TIONS ON NEW INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

**Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Board. Can the minister inform the House whether or not commissioners of the Canadian Wheat Board and representatives of various Prairie farm organizations are assisting in the current negotiations at Geneva which it is hoped will lead to an acceptable new international wheat agreement?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Two commissioners will be attending the meetings in Geneva in connection with these negotiations, and a group of leaders of farm organizations is also attending as part of the delegation.

**Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate whether any Canadian cabinet ministers will be present at some time during these negotiations in Geneva?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, at the present time there is no intention to turn these negotiations into a ministerial meeting.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREE-  
MENT—CANADIAN POSITION ON GIFTS TO NEEDY  
COUNTRIES

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the fact that gifts of wheat to needy countries may be curtailed under a new world wheat pact, which would adversely affect Canada's export position, can the minister indicate to the House the position the Canadian delegation is taking with respect to this development in the current talks under way at Geneva designed to draw up a new world wheat pact?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Of course, Mr. Speaker, no conclusion has been arrived at with regard to what will be contained in any new agreement. The Canadian position with regard to food aid is so very strong and clear in favour of food aid that there is no doubt about our advocating the inclusion of such terms in any agreement at any time.

\* \* \*

## CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

AGREEMENT RESPECTING PAYMENT OF OVERTIME OUT-  
SIDE CANADA LABOUR (STANDARDS) CODE

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. At the time the Department of Labour, Devco and the unions involved mutually agreed on an extension of time respecting the application of the Canada Labour (Standards) Code regarding overtime, was there any agreement arrived at respecting payment for overtime work outside that laid down by the Canada Labour (Standards) Code?