

[English]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Without in any way trying to be evasive, I think it is hypothetical to a large extent. If we are dealing with a specific subject, and if a particular municipality were to be invited as part of a federal-provincial agreement, then we could negotiate directly with that municipality. Generally speaking, however, in the first instance it would be the government of a particular province, in this case, Quebec, which would ask for designation.

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● (1430)

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF ADEQUACY OF SUPPLIES FOR FEED MILLS IN VIEW OF EXPORT EMBARGO

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to return to the first question I directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Is the government satisfied at this time that the present arrangements between Canada and the United States will avert any further escalation of feed costs, and also will the government assure the House that feed mills in Canada will not run out of soybean meal in the foreseeable future?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, it is precisely because of the uncertainty regarding such questions as supply and price that the government acted last Friday by imposing export controls on the listed commodities, seven all together. That is also the reason my statement, in answer to the hon. member's first question, indicated a procedure for determining what the forward commitments might be. It is only after we have determined these forward commitments that we would be in a position to indicate whether an export permit should be granted, giving due and important allowance to domestic supplies.

Mr. Murta: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question in that connection. In view of the quantities of our committed export orders I should like to ask the minister whether we can be assured of operating for the period of our proposed embargo or restriction?

Mr. Gillespie: I think it is too early to give an answer to that question, Mr. Speaker.

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GRAIN

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF EMBARGO ON EXPORT OF RAPESEED—AMOUNT OF RAPESEED MEAL ON HAND AND POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTION FOR SOYBEAN MEAL

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary to the question I asked earlier. In view of the ample supplies of rapeseed on hand which will leave X numbers of supplies after the end of this crop year, so there is no justification for restricting exports, will the minister immediately remove any dis-

Oral Questions

rupting effects that now exist in the export of rapeseed and discontinue the policy of requiring permits for export?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that undertaking. I have already indicated that a procedure has been adopted for the purpose of processing applications for permits and for determining what the supply situation is. I can give the undertaking that the government is most concerned about continuing to have available supplies for our traditional customers and to safeguard their interests.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar for a last supplementary question, and will then recognize the hon. member for Dauphin followed by the hon. member for Victoria.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the mills which process rapeseed meal have ample supplies on hand and there is no shortage of rapeseed meal, has the minister or the Minister of Agriculture made an accurate survey to ascertain the amount of rapeseed meal on hand and whether it can be substituted for soybean meal?

Mr. Gillespie: That survey is currently underway, Mr. Speaker.

OIL SEEDS—POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF TWO PRICE SYSTEM

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Is the government considering a two-price system in respect of oil seeds, a lower domestic price with a higher export price?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville shortly.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—POSSIBILITY CANADIAN MEMBERS OF CONTROL COMMISSION UNDERTAKE MISSIONS WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION—APPLICATION OF PARIS AGREEMENT

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence and is supplementary to the subject raised by the hon. member for York South. As it was felt necessary some three weeks ago to issue instructions confining our observers to their quarters for their own safety, does he now feel it is normal for them to be going on missions on their own without authorization or contact with the Viet Cong, but strictly on their own hook?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, our personnel are performing the duties given to them.

Mr. McKinnon: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Can the minister tell the House whether these