

another question. Why answer one question—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has had a reply. We will go on to the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the minister not to answer until he gets the question first. Has the government decided on a chairman for the co-ordinating committee with respect to the development of Cape Breton?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): No, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

Mr. MacInnis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the government made any arrangements for setting up this committee?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): No, Mr. Speaker.

MANPOWER

ATLANTIC PROVINCES—INQUIRY AS TO PROGRAMS TO ALLEVIATE UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question really is supplementary to the question raised by a number of hon. members regarding unemployment in Atlantic Canada. On November 24 the Minister of Manpower and Immigration indicated that any plans the department had would be announced in the House. I wonder if the minister could indicate whether in fact there are any plans by his department to alleviate the heavy unemployment and if he could indicate when he would be prepared to make a statement concerning the nature of these plans?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the original answer still stands.

Mr. Lundrigan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the minister is passing out tidbits indicating he does have plans. I wonder whether we could have—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

DATE OF BY-ELECTION IN SELKIRK CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question

Inquiries of the Ministry

to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that there has been a vacancy in the representation in this House with respect to the constituency of Selkirk for nearly six months, is the Prime Minister now in a position to say when the by-election to fill that vacancy will take place?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am very shortly going to make an announcement to that effect. A decision has been taken and I had the impression it had been announced but perhaps it has not. I shall make the announcement very soon.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If the Prime Minister knows the date and if he thinks we all know it, why doesn't he tell us?

AGRICULTURE

SOYABEANS—INQUIRY AS TO MARKET STABILIZATION PLAN

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Is the minister ready to announce to the House yet any government plan to stabilize the Canadian soybean market, especially in view of recent representations by the producers organization regarding the present alarming situation?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we have received some representations in this respect which, as the hon. member knows, we are considering very carefully.

OILSEEDS—STEPPING UP OF DELIVERY

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the current very low overseas shipment of wheat and the fact that the minister has suggested to agricultural producers a switch in production from wheat to other grains, would the minister give urgent consideration to having delivery of oilseeds stepped up in order that the producers of these seeds may be encouraged to make the necessary switch in production for the next crop year?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, in this current selling season the Canadian Wheat Board is in fact taking that into account and making special arrangements so that rapeseed and other oilseeds can be put in an export position as rapidly as there is a demand for them to be shipped into the export market.