

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Drury: Perhaps after I have made my statement to the committee, Mr. Speaker, I could have some conversation with the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam to ascertain if he is adequately informed. It would take some time to explain the whole thing on orders of the day.

TRADE**CEREALS—DISCUSSION AS TO ENTRY INTO EUROPEAN MARKET**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce related to the negotiations that will begin next week in Geneva respecting cereals and the Kennedy round of trade negotiations. I should like to ask him if Canada intends to ask for a discussion with respect to the price of cereals entering the European common market, and also if Canada is being made aware of the terms and conditions under which cereals will enter the common market.

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): In general I could cover the whole question by saying the answer is in the affirmative. This and other aspects are being discussed. Particularly, as I said before, we are advocating a higher price for cereals for Canada.

Mr. Olson: I wonder if the minister would be prepared to tell the house how much of an increase Canada is advocating in the maximum under the international wheat agreement.

Mr. Winters: I really do not believe it would be in the public interest to disclose that at this stage of the negotiations.

Mr. W. H. Jorgenson (Provencher): I wonder if the minister could advise us if the United States position in these negotiations has been known to the government, and if so what that position is.

Mr. Winters: I am not at liberty to say what the position is. The position of the United States is known to the negotiators. It developed after long weeks of discussion.

Mr. Olson: Can the minister advise the house whether it is true that Canada will be seeking a new maximum of \$2.50 per bushel for wheat?

Mr. Winters: I do not think I can add to what I have said on the matter of price.

[Mr. Douglas.]

[Translation]

CANADIAN CENTENNIAL**INQUIRY AS TO INVITATION TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

I would like to know whether the Canadian government has officially invited His Holiness Pope Paul VI to visit our country and the World Exhibition on the occasion of our centennial?

[English]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there have been questions previously of the government on this matter, and I can only repeat what has been said most recently by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, that the Papal Delegate has indicated to the government that His Holiness will not be in a position to make a visit to Canada or to North America during this year. This is the latest information we have on the subject.

HOUSING**INQUIRY AS TO FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO ONTARIO PROGRAM**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government has been approached by the government of Ontario with regard to assisting in its crash housing program which was announced in the legislature yesterday.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I know the minister responsible for housing has been in touch with the Ontario representatives in connection with this matter, but I would prefer to have a word with him to see whether he can answer the question at greater length tomorrow.

Mr. Winkler: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Could the minister inform the house whether for the first time the federal government is going to take part in a plan to provide capital grants for the construction of senior citizens homes and homes for the aged?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to discuss this matter with my colleague the Minister of Labour.