

Order Paper Questions

[Text]

DAIRY POLICY

Question No. 33—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has the government in recent years announced its annual current year dairy policy well into the year concerned rather than before the year begins and, if so (a) for what reason (b) is the government considering changing the announcement date to an earlier date?

2. Has the Minister of Agriculture received complaints from dairy farmers that late announcements do not allow time to properly plan their year in regard to quotas, finances, imports and exports, etc., and, if so, is he prepared to take action to satisfy these complaints?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): In so far as the Canadian Dairy Commission is concerned, the answer is: 1. No. (a) The dairy year runs from April to April and the announcement is made around April 1 of each year. (b) Yes.

2. Yes. This question is presently under study with the Canadian milk supply management committee.

FARMERS' INCOME

Question No. 941—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. Does the Department of Agriculture agree with the forecast of Mr. E. S. Boyko, Assistant Director of the Agriculture Division of Statistics Canada, that realized net income of Canadian farmers will decline by 6.1 per cent during 1978 and, if not, what is the Department's forecast?

2. Will 1978 be the third consecutive year in which realized net farm income will have declined due to rising farm operating costs which are not being met by increased income and, if so, what specific actions is the Department planning to take to reverse this disastrous trend?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. The Department of Agriculture accepts Mr. Boyko's forecast but

Year	Total	Austria	Belgium	France	Ireland	Netherlands	U.K.	West Germany
1972	814	75	289	150	—	75	150	75
1973	1,163	36	350	251	—	150	266	110
1974	1,332	19	350	294	—	200	319	150
1975	1,172	16	350	296	—	150	245	115
1976	670	10	225	180	—	75	122	58
1977	669	9	225	180	32	75	90	58

(b) All workers were participants in the arrangement known as the European Student Tobacco Workers Program. Participants were required to be: students; pay their own air fare to and from Canada; and remain with their employer for the full tobacco harvest period (from the first of August to approximately the middle of September). Employers were required to pay the European students at least the local prevailing wage rate, depending upon the exact duties and the types of tobacco kiln used. Employers also provided the students with free room and board as long as the students remained to the completion of the harvest.

CANADIAN CHEESE

Question No. 1,457—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

In 1976-77, what was the volume of Canadian cheese available on the Canadian market and (a) at what price (b) what variety of cheeses were sold (c) what was the rate of consumption?

[Mr. Pinard.]

would like to draw attention to the following point in the Statistics Canada outlook statement: "It should be remembered that realized net income is the residual between two other forecasts i.e. cash receipts and expenditures, and as such is very sensitive to changes in the two larger series. Indeed, if cash receipts were to increase by 2 per cent more than forecast, realized net income would increase."

2. If realized net farm income declines in 1978 then that would be the third consecutive decline. However it should be noted that even if such a decline occurred, realized net farm income in 1978 would be 45 per cent higher than it was in 1972. The Government operates programs under the Agricultural Stabilization Act, Western Grain Stabilization Act, Farm Product Marketing Agencies Act and Canadian Dairy Commission Act which take into account farm operating costs and reduce the effects of instability in Agriculture. In addition to such measures the agricultural development strategy, now being formulated in cooperation with the provinces, will assist agriculture to realize its full market potential.

EUROPEAN STUDENT TOBACCO WORKERS PROGRAM

Question No. 1,382—**Mr. Dionne (Kamouraska):**

Between 1972 and 1977, did any Europeans, students or other workers come to Canada to work on fruit or tobacco farms in Ontario or other provinces under an agreement with the Department of Employment and Immigration and, if so (a) how many (b) what were their terms of employment (c) what was the nationality of the persons involved?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Yes. (a) and (c)

Mr. Bernard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports the following: The following table shows the domestic disappearance of cheddar and other cheese in Canada during calendar year, 1977.

Disposition of Cheddar and Other Cheese in Canada—1977

	Cheddar Cheese '000 lb	Other Cheese '000 lb
Stocks January 1, 1977	55,114	15,926
Production 12 months 1977	177,159	118,980
Imports 12 months 1977	—	43,759
Stocks December 31, 1977	61,766	19,367
Exports 12 months 1977	1,630	2,370
Domestic Disappearance 1977	168,877	156,928

(a) This information is not available.