

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, June 4, 1971

The House met at 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF PROVINCIAL SPEAKERS ATTENDING CANADIAN AREA COUNCIL MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Mr. Speaker: I am delighted to bring to the attention of hon. members the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of a group of delegates attending the annual meeting of the Canadian Area Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

At this moment in the gallery there are seven provincial Speakers. Later during the day it is expected that all of Canada's provincial Speakers will be in attendance, representing all of our Canadian Legislative Assemblies. On behalf of hon. members I extend to them a hearty welcome to the mother of Canadian Parliaments.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

[Translation]

Sixth report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, in the two official languages—Mr. Lesard (LaSalle).

[English]

ELECTION EXPENSES

Second report of the Special Committee on Election Expenses—Mr. Chappell.

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

Third report of Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, in the two official languages.—Mr. Lachance.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION

TABLING OF REPORT ON PRICES OF OIL REFINERY PRODUCTS

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the Prices and Incomes Commission report on the prices of oil refinery products, in the two official languages.

AUDITOR GENERAL

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1970

Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table today, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, copies in both official languages of the report of the Auditor General to the House of Commons for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1970. The Financial Administration Act requires this report to be laid before the House on or before December 31 or, if Parliament is not then in session, within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session. The Auditor General has asked that his apologies be extended to the House for the lateness of this report which was caused by circumstances beyond his control.

• (11:10 a.m.)

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GRAIN

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SALE OF WHEAT TO SOVIET UNION

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I should like to report to the House upon an event which occurred about an hour ago and was witnessed by my colleague the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) and myself along with Mr. M. R. Kuzmin, First Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. This was the signing of a contract between the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O Exportkhleb, the Soviet grain trading agency, for the sale of wheat to the Soviet Union totalling approximately 130 million bushels and valued at approximately \$235 million. Delivery of the wheat will begin this month and continue throughout 1971 and 1972.

The sale involves two separate contracts. The first is for approximately 38.4 million bushels to be shipped during 1971, completing the outstanding portions of the agreement which was signed by the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O Exportkhleb on June 14, 1966. The second contract covers an additional sale of 2,220,000 metric tons, of which 970,000 metric tons will be shipped this year and the balance in 1972. Of the total quantity, 350,000 metric tons will be shipped in the form of flour.

In addition to this the buyer has the option to purchase a further 250,000 metric tons for shipment during the period May-July, 1972.

Shipment of the wheat will be made from both Pacific and eastern Canadian ports, with the buyer having the option to ship a portion from Churchill during the 1971 navigation season. Grades to be delivered during 1971 are Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Manitoba Northern and No. 1 Canada