

Oral Questions

cut back subsidies, as some people say. We are still paying the same amount of money for the proper amount of dairy products, including industrial milk. As I said, we will announce the program earlier, if we can.

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ANTI-INFLATION BOARD**SUGGESTION THAT A CHANGE BE MADE IN APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. I am sure he has followed what has taken place with greater care and more attention than the Prime Minister has; therefore I direct my question to him. If it be true that it requires the publication of the rule that has been made in order to bring on an appeal, as the Leader of the Opposition suggested, does the minister not think that a change should be made in this regard, because what has happened smells of much of the worst in Star-Chamber.

Mr. Trudeau: You are against the monarchy!

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the right hon. gentleman, but I was a few minutes late getting into the House. I did not hear his leader's question, so I am not aware of the subject to which it relates.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: The answer is very proper. The minister is always here. He was not present to listen to the Prime Minister show his entire ignorance of what is happening.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, these interrupters do not know that there is a rule of law. They do not realize that. I ask the minister if he will look into this situation, for on the face of it it smells of deep injustice. It cannot be justified in any way. Will the minister immediately bring before the House the regulations providing for appeal and in general the terms thereof as required by the statute? As it is now, civil servants order, civil servants determine and the courts do not know what the facts are because they are confidential. Surely the minister, the keeper of the Queen's conscience, will do something to protect the individuals of Canada.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that both the Queen and the Prime Minister are quite able to look after their own consciences.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Don't associate them together, having regard to the Prime Minister's statements.

Mr. Basford: Although the right hon. gentleman did not state it, I take it he is referring to appeals under the Anti-Inflation Act. The rights of appeal of parties are set

[Mr. Whelan.]

out in the Act and in terms of the Federal Court Act. If there should be further clarification required for the guidance of parties as to the conduct of appeal, I am sure that the chairman of the appeal tribunal will indicate those.

NATURE OF NOTICE IN WRITING AND FORM PRESCRIBED FOR APPEAL

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, provision is made for the appeal in Section 31(2) which reads:

An appeal to the Appeal Tribunal shall be instituted by filing with the Tribunal a notice in writing in a form prescribed by the rules made pursuant to subsection 27(2).

Those rules have not been promulgated in any way. Will the minister now tell the House what is the nature of the notice in writing and the form prescribed by the rules that has to be followed in order to make an appeal or is the minister unaware of the form?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the procedures for appeal will be made known shortly and in such a way as not to prejudice any of the parties wishing to make an appeal.

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INDUSTRY**STEPS TO PREVENT BANKRUPTCY OF REFINERY AT COME-BY-CHANCE—POSSIBILITY OF ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who I understand has just returned from the salubrious area of Come-By-Chance. What steps does the government of Canada propose to take to prevent this major oil refinery, which is such an important employer in the Atlantic provinces, from going under?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the hon. member for giving me notice. It is a fact that I held some meetings over the weekend with interested parties and talked to others on the telephone from Ottawa. It is not clear at the moment whether any action by any federal agency would be capable of preventing certain steps which are already in train and have been taken by some of the main parties, including for example, the government of Newfoundland and the ECGB financing agency in Great Britain. I will be meeting with Premier Moores later today here in Ottawa. Undoubtedly this subject will come up. My colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, in response to a question, indicated that some initiatives have been taken as a result of his actions to keep an eye on the situation. About the best I can tell the hon. member now is that we are very close to all the parties concerned and as soon as something emerges which might make it possible for the federal government to assist we shall consider it in the most sympathetic way imaginable.