

as are now well known and as have, indeed, before the country for about twenty months.

Motion agreed to.

On motion of Sir George Foster the House adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15, 1919.

The House met at Three o'clock.

QUESTIONS.

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

BOARD OF COMMERCE—VICE-CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT.

Mr. SUTHERLAND:

1. Has the Government asked for an explanation or statement from the Board of Commerce regarding the statement alleged to have been made by W. F. O'Connor, vice-chairman of the board, at Hamilton on September 16, published in the Toronto Globe and other papers on September 17, as follows:

"This is not the time for an increase in prices. Prices should go down from now on. In this connection I wish to announce now that all vendors from the farmer who increase the price on milk or anything else will be guilty of an indictable offence punishable by a fine of \$1,000 and two years' imprisonment."

2. If so, what explanation or statement has been given?

3. If not, is it the intention of the Government to ask for one?

4. Did W. F. O'Connor, vice-chairman of the Board of Commerce, on or about September 16 issue a ruling, order or injunction regarding the price of milk?

5. If so, did such ruling, order or injunction have the concurrence of the other members of the board?

6. Did this apply to the whole of Canada, or to some particular part or portion thereof?

7. Is same still in force or effect?

8. If not, when was it repealed?

9. If repealed, what is the condition or situation at present in so far as the ruling, order or injunction of the board applies to the milk producers of any portion or province of the Dominion of Canada?

Hon. Mr. DOHERTY:

1. The Government has not asked for an explanation or statement as referred to, as this seems to have been simply a warning of the commissioner with an indication of possible penalties for disobeying orders that may be passed by the board.

2 and 3. Answered by No. 1.

4. Mr. O'Connor, the vice-chairman of the Board of Commerce, did on September 16, 1919, issue a ruling regarding the price of milk, in which it was ordered as follows:

"Upon representation and proof made to the board that certain producers and

vendors of the above mentioned commodities within the above named province purpose demanding and exacting from their vendees within such province, enhanced prices upon the sale of such commodities, and

"In pursuance and under authority of the provisions of the Combines and Fair Prices Act 1919, and of a certain order of the board made at Winnipeg, Manitoba, the fourteenth day of September, 1919, whereby the commissioner above-named is vested, in addition to his general and other special powers, with power to make, sign and issue for and on behalf of the board this order, in the terms hereof—

"It is ordered that the Wentworth Milk Dealers Association, the members whereof trade principally within the city of Hamilton; the Model Dairy, which trades principally within the city of Guelph; the Toronto Milk and Cream Producers Association, the members whereof trade principally within the city of Toronto; the City Dairy, Limited, and the Farmers' Dairy Company, Limited, which companies, firms or associations trade principally within the said city of Toronto, and all other companies, firms and associations which produce or trade in, or the members whereof produce or trade in either of said commodities, within said province of Ontario, and the officers, directors, members, managers, clerks, servants and employees of any of such or indicated associations, companies or firms, and all persons whomsoever who may produce or sell, whether as principals or as agents, and whether by retail or wholesale or otherwise, within said province either of said commodities, are restrained, enjoined and prohibited from selling or offering for sale and from further continuing to sell or to offer for sale to any association, company or person either of said commodities and from combining or agreeing, any one of them with any other or others of them, to sell or to offer for sale or to further continue to offer for sale, either of said commodities at sale prices greater than those whereat such associations, companies, firms or persons customarily sold or offered for sale said commodities respectively, on the fourteenth day of September 1919, until the further order of this board to be made within forty days after said fourteenth day of September, 1919.

"And it is further ordered that any sale made in contravention of this order shall be deemed one made for an unreasonable and unjust price."

5 and 6. Answered by No. 4.