

*Business of the House***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

## CHANGE IN ORDER ANNOUNCED FOR THIS DAY

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I want to take advantage of this opportunity, if I may, to indicate a slight change in the business of the house for today. I indicated last night that Bill C-145, dealing with commercial fisheries, would be the first item of business today, but we will not be able to take this bill today.

Further, I indicated the sequence for consideration of two bills standing in the name of the Minister of Forestry, Bill C-151 and C-152, in that order. We now propose to call Bill C-152 first, as we feel that this arrangement will lend itself to a more orderly discussion of these two bills.

**TRADE**

## CHEESE—ANNOUNCEMENT OF INCREASE IN U.S. GLOBAL QUOTA

**Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the United States import restrictions on Canadian cheddar cheese were among the specific trade matters discussed at the meeting of the joint Canada-United States committee on trade and economic affairs held in Washington earlier this month.

I am pleased to be able to inform hon. members that the United States has today announced an increase of over 900,000 pounds in the U.S. global import quota on cheddar cheese for the balance of the current quota year, which ends June 30.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Winters:** Further, consideration is being given by the United States to increasing the over-all U.S. import quota on cheddar cheese in the net quota year by as much as 5.5 million pounds, and to establishing a supplementary quota of 1.2 million pounds specifically for aged cheddar. This would give a total global cheddar cheese quota of over 9.5 million pounds annually, as compared to the present quota of about 2.8 million pounds.

Under the existing quota Canada is restricted in its sales to the U.S. market to a total of 614,000 pounds annually. This amount will be immediately increased by Canada's share of the supplementary quota for the current year, some 200,000 pounds.

In future years, under the new proposal, Canada might expect to obtain access for as much as 1.8 million pounds of cheddar cheese

[Mr. Thompson.]

annually. In addition, the special quota of 1.2 million pounds on aged cheddar cheese will be of particular interest to Canada as the world's premier producer of specialty aged cheddar. Canadian producers have won for themselves on the U.S. market a wide acceptance of this premium product.

These relaxation measures are a most welcome step forward in opening up the United States market for Canadian cheddar.

Mr. Speaker, I understand this announcement is being made simultaneously in Washington.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Mr. Speaker, the announcement today of the increase in the quota on cheese going into the United States is, I hope, the end of a long debate between the two countries. In my view the imposition of quotas by the United States on cheese going into that country was a definite infringement of the GATT principle. After long years of negotiation they have finally accepted the idea that our share should be increased.

• (3:00 p.m.)

The second point I want to make in regard to the quota on cheddar cheese is this. When the turkey problem arose in Canada some years ago the Americans protested on the ground that this was in breach of GATT. The question that comes to my mind is, does this mean that the two countries are beginning to get rid of all those breaches of GATT which have accumulated between us, or is this just an isolated policy?

**NATIONAL FRUIT OF CANADA**

## PROVISION FOR DESIGNATION OF McINTOSH APPLE

**Mr. H. C. Harley (Halton)** moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-162, respecting the national fruit of Canada.

**Some hon. Members:** Explain.

**Mr. Harley:** Mr. Speaker, this bill would name the McIntosh apple the national fruit of Canada. This fruit is a native product of Canada, and it is suitable that it receive this recognition.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.