

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Thursday, April 16, 1964

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

### HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDRESS ON BIRTH OF THIRD SON

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, a message from Her Majesty the Queen signed by her own hand, which has been transmitted to me by His Excellency the Governor General.

**Mr. Speaker:**

The address which you have sent to me and which conveys your congratulations to myself and to my husband on the birth of our third son has given me very great pleasure and on this happy occasion we both deeply appreciate the kind sentiments and good wishes which you have expressed.

Elizabeth R.

7th April, 1964

### TRADE

#### TABLING OF EXCHANGE OF LETTERS RESPECTING U.K. CEREAL IMPORT POLICIES

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, on March 19 and on earlier occasions I have informed the house of the discussions that have been taking place with the British government concerning their proposed new cereals policies. Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Canadian high commissioner in London, yesterday signed on behalf of the government of Canada an exchange of letters constituting an agreement between the Canadian government and the government of the United Kingdom concerning Britain's new production and import policies with respect to cereals. I ask leave of the house to table the text of this exchange of letters and supporting documents.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the house grant leave?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Sharp:** Similar agreements have been concluded between Britain and its other principal overseas cereal suppliers, Argentina, Australia and the United States. I regard these arrangements as constructive and helpful. I am confident they will strengthen trade in cereals between Canada and Britain, and that they can contribute to the working out of broader cereals arrangements of an international character. These arrangements with the British and with their other principal overseas

cereal suppliers were worked out in a spirit of close co-operation and understanding.

These arrangements are complex. I am reluctant to take the time of the house to comment on them at this time, although I am prepared to do so. Instead, Mr. Speaker, I have prepared an explanatory memorandum and I would ask the consent of the house to have it printed as an appendix to today's *Hansard* to assist hon. members in their study of the agreement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the house give consent?

**Hon. George C. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings):** Mr. Speaker, ordinarily in a matter of this importance we would expect the minister to make a statement. However, I quite appreciate that the matter is highly technical and I presume that any statement he might make would not be brief. I think it would be helpful to the house if the minister had leave, without creating a precedent, to table this statement at this time. Then hon. members would have an opportunity of studying it and at a later date could ask questions in the house dealing with it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the house agree?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

*[Editor's note: For text of statement referred to above, see appendix.]*

### OLD AGE SECURITY

#### QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION

On the orders of the day:

*[Translation]*

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Did the Prime Minister receive a request from the Quebec government, at the federal-provincial conference or since then, to the effect that it be handed over the whole administration of the Old Age Security Act, as far as the province of Quebec itself is concerned?

Could the Prime Minister also tell me what compensation the Quebec government is asking to take over that administration?

*[Text]*

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** No such request has been received.