

Inquiries of the Ministry

gaged here. I know that my office, and certainly the Prime Minister's office, have been engaged in making such arrangements.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of statements she made earlier to the effect that her department is making an extensive study of the recommendations contained in the Hall commission report, I wonder whether she would consider giving the house some kind of a progress report, either in the form of a white paper or by meeting with a special committee, to let us know what progress the government is making in connection with the recommendations of the Hall commission report itself.

Miss LaMarsh: I will certainly consider it, Mr. Speaker.

AGRICULTURE

MONTREAL—CONTROL OVER PRICES AT STOCKYARDS

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Chapleau): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Could he tell the house whether it is true that prices at Montreal slaughterhouses are set by two men only, a certain R. K. Bennett, chief of the federal Department of Agriculture's livestock division, and Mr. W. B. Pisarsky, chief of the beef division at Legrade Inc.? In addition, is the minister aware of the accusations made by a certain Mr. Tremblay, a consulting agronomist?

[*Text*]

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, that is not correct. Sales on public stockyards are strictly a matter of negotiation between the seller and the purchaser. The livestock division of the Department of Agriculture collects and reports prices paid for livestock on public stockyards—of which there are ten across Canada, three in Alberta, three in Saskatchewan, one in Manitoba, one in Toronto and two in Montreal—as a service to livestock producers, but has no jurisdiction over the prices paid or received. The operation in respect of the Montreal stockyards is identical to that in effect in all other stockyards in Canada.

[*Miss LaMarsh.*]

REQUEST FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF DAIRY POLICY

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Clément Vincent (Nicolet-Yamaska): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Could the minister confirm that the new dairy policy for 1965-66 will be most definitely announced before April 1 next and, also, that the views of the government on this new dairy policy will be made known to the farm associations of the country, in order to avoid conflicts?

[*Text*]

Hon. Harry W. Hays (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, that question was asked yesterday, and I replied that it would be before April 1. In connection with the second question, of course this is government policy and will be announced at the proper time. We have had consultations with many, many groups in so far as this is concerned, and we think we will come up with a program that will be the best program the dairy farmers of Canada have ever had.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Can the Minister of Agriculture inform us whether this program will come into force on April 1 or on May 1, 1965?

[*Text*]

Mr. Hays: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would not like to answer that question at the moment. However, I should hope it would take effect as of the time of the announcement.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

Can the Minister of Agriculture tell us whether experts of his department considered reasonable the request of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture for a minimum of \$3.50 per hundredweight of milk and whether they are ready to comply with that request?

[*Text*]

Mr. Hays: We listened with great interest to this brief, Mr. Speaker.

REPORTED STATEMENT BY MINISTER RESPECTING FARM INCOME

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. S. Smallwood (Battle River-Camrose): I should like to direct a question to