

*Supply—Agriculture*

greater discounts, in the United States than is current here, demands an urgent investigation. I know the minister is aware of some of these discrepancies, and indeed said in this chamber that there is nothing to prevent Canadian farmers going to the United States and buying their fertilizer there. Well, we will soon know, but I suspect from information coming to me that there may be a few roadblocks. As a matter of fact I think some road blocks are already being thrown up. Imagine, if you will, potash brought to the head of the lakes from Saskatchewan, shipped by boat to Ohio, and sold to Ohio and southwest Michigan farmers reportedly at \$20 per ton less than farmers in southwestern Ontario can buy it.

Here are some examples of the advertised fall list prices for southwestern Ontario compared with Ohio and southwest Michigan prices. It covers a variety of fertilizers. The first one is 6-24-24. The Canadian price for it is \$91.50 per ton bulk, and the U.S. price \$53. The bagged price in Canada is \$96.50 per ton, and in the United States \$57. Let us take another analysis—8-32-16. The Canadian price is \$101 per ton bulk, and the U.S. price \$58. The Canadian price bagged is \$106 and the U.S. price bagged \$62. Urea 45 per cent nitrogen has a Canadian price of \$116 bagged, and the United States price is \$69.

This is too large a spread. Our farmers cannot be expected to compete with this spread. For example, many farmers in my area use as much as 500 or 600 pounds per acre, yes, even up to half a ton or more. Of course many use less, but if you use an average of, say, 300 pounds per acre of 6-24-24 then our farmers' cost is \$14.46 per acre compared with \$8.55 in the United States, a spread of \$5.91. That is the disadvantage the Canadian farmer is at, just on that one input.

Recently, Mr. Chairman, a very large chemical plant started to manufacture nitrogen fertilizer close to my home area. It has been suggested that this Canadian plant may well be supplying the U.S. fertilizer company that offers Urea at \$69 per ton compared with a Canadian price of \$116 per ton. This is about the same kind of deal there is in the U.S.-Canada automobile pact, where an automobile manufactured in Oakville sells for \$300 or \$500 less in Buffalo than it does in Hamilton.

**Mr. Smerchanski:** Would the hon. member permit a question? Is he speaking of dealers' price, manufacturers' price or distributors' price?

[Mr. McCutcheon.]

**Mr. McCutcheon:** If the hon. member would care to wait until I finish he can ask me this question again.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. It being ten o'clock it is my duty to rise, report progress, and request leave to sit again at the next sitting of the house.

Progress reported.

• (10:00 p.m.)

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Olson:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I may be permitted to advise the house, as acting house leader, that the estimates of the Department of Fisheries will be called for tomorrow instead of the estimates of the Department of Transport as was announced earlier by the President of the Privy Council. I understand that this is in compliance with discussions held between parties and the suggestion made in the house earlier today.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, if the consideration of the estimates of the Department of Fisheries should be concluded, what other department would we move to tomorrow?

**Mr. Olson:** Well, the second reading of the Bretton Woods agreement I understand. There are several other matters that could be taken up. I am advised by the President of the Privy Council to make this announcement at this time so that hon. members will be advised. Perhaps the house leader for the New Democratic party would know what else. However, earlier today the indication was that the Department of Fisheries would take all day tomorrow.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

**HOUSING—TORONTO—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON MALVERN PROJECT**

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, on Friday November 30 I asked the following question on the orders of the day, as reported at page 3307 of *Hansard*:

Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport who is in charge of housing. What progress, if any, has been made with regard to building homes at the Malvern project in order to ease the housing crisis in Toronto?