

bility after it has received advice from the legal adviser of the government. Under the statute, it will then have to say whether or not it considers that the exceptions affect this provision of the Dairy Industry Act and the provision about the exclusion of secondhand commodities, unless there is agreement to modify these exceptions.

Just a week ago today I had an interesting conversation with our chief representative at the Havana conference, and these two articles are still being debated at Havana. They may remain as they are; they may be modified. Under the exception there is an argument that if there is a non-discriminatory prohibition affecting an agricultural product, non-discriminatory inasmuch as it applies to Canadians as well as to outsiders, it does not have to be interfered with. That is a possible construction of the exception. Whether or not it is the proper construction of the exception is now being considered by the Department of Justice.

Mr. BRACKEN: The minister has been dealing with the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement. Might I ask him what was the intention of the government with respect to the embargo on oleomargarine when this agreement was signed?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I should draw to the attention of the leader of the opposition the fact that while it is the practice to ask questions before the orders of the day are called, and while it is sometimes the practice to ask additional questions, it is not the practice to start a debate on the answer given by a minister.

Mr. BRACKEN: I just wished to be clear as to what the minister was telling us in his answer to my question.

FUEL

ALLEGED SHORTAGE IN SWIFT CURRENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. J. BENTLEY (Swift Current): I should like to ask the Minister of Labour a question arising out of a telegram received from the Swift Current fuel dealers' association, advising of a serious fuel shortage there. Will the minister say whether the federal government is doing anything to assist in settling the dispute between the miners and owners in Alberta and British Columbia?

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): This particular dispute comes within the jurisdiction of the Alberta government. Recently they appointed a board of

conciliation. That board has made its report, which has been placed before the parties to the dispute that is, district 18, United Mine Workers of America, and the coal operators.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT, 1938, ON SETTLER ASSISTANCE

Mr. CAOQUETTE:

1. Was there an agreement between the dominion government and the provincial government, in 1938, concerning settler assistance on a colonization plan?

2. If so, what share of such assistance was to be paid by the dominion government?

3. Are there any amounts outstanding under the said agreement?

4. If so, when will the government pay such amounts?

Mr. COTE (Verdun):

1. Yes. An agreement was entered into with the province of Quebec under the provisions of the Unemployment Relief and Assistance Act 1936, which provided for a contribution by the dominion to the cost of assisting selected families who would otherwise be in receipt of direct relief to settle upon the land and thereby eventually become self-supporting. This agreement was in effect until March 31, 1940.

2. One third of all expenditures incurred by the province and any organized municipality up to a total of \$1,000 per family assisted. Where a family was selected from an unorganized territory of the province and placed upon the land the maximum dominion contribution was \$300 per family.

3. The dominion government's commitments to the province under the agreement have been met.

4. Answered by No. 3.

IMMIGRATION CENTRES IN EUROPE

Mr. WINKLER:

1. On the European continent how many Canadian immigration centres have been established?

2. Where are they located?

3. How are these manned?

4. Are other stations under contemplation? If so, where?

Mr. GLEN:

1. Five points at which there are regular immigration officers. Nine where immigration matters are attended to by officers of the Department of External Affairs attached to Canadian missions.

2. Regular immigration officers are stationed at Paris, Brussels, The Hague and Rome.