

Inquiries of the Ministry

CEMENT—IMPORT OF CARGO FROM CUBA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. J. Robichaud (Gloucester): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. As today's *Montreal Gazette* has reported that a cargo of cement, imported from Cuba, is now tied up in the port of Montreal waiting for a clearance, could the minister advise the house whether this importation has been authorized due to a shortage of cement in this country?

Hon. H. J. Flemming (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I would have to take the question as notice.

WHEAT—ANNOUNCEMENT OF FURTHER SALE TO
POLAND

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, may I have the permission of the house to revert to motions?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has asked for unanimous consent to revert to motions. Does the house agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Hamilton: I express my thanks to the house, because this helps me out in a business way.

I am pleased to announce the conclusion of a further contract between the Canadian wheat board and the Polish foreign trade company, Rolimpex, covering the sale of 80,000 tons or 2.9 million bushels of wheat for delivery from St. Lawrence or lakehead ports before the close of navigation. This is in addition to the recent sales contract with Poland for 300,000 tons of wheat—11 million bushels—which I announced on August 30, and it forms a part of the optional arrangement made at that time for the purchase and sale of a further 200,000 tons of wheat.

The new sale was facilitated by the credit insurance facilities arranged last month by the Canadian government, providing for terms of 10 per cent cash and one third of the balance after 24, 30 and 36 months respectively.

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): Any success which may attend the efforts of the Canadian wheat board and/or the government to increase the sale of wheat is very much in order at this time in view of the bumper crop. However, along with the announcement the minister has made this morning I would hope he intends to go forward on the lines of the statement he made some weeks ago, when he said he intended to visit Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia with the object of

[Mr. Hees.]

increasing sales of Canadian wheat in those countries to a much greater extent, and also over a much longer period of time.

(Translation):

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

REQUEST FOR DEFINITION OF ONTARIO—
QUEBEC BOUNDARY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martineau (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): I should like to give an answer to the question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Stormont.

A definition of the Ontario-Quebec boundary on lake St. Francis can be found in the statutes and, as every one knows, that demarcation comes entirely under the jurisdiction of the provinces concerned.

I understand that negotiations have been going on for some time between the two provinces concerned and that no definite agreement has been reached as yet, although both parties have expressed their wish to settle the matter as soon as possible.

My predecessor, the Hon. Paul Comtois, contacted both parties on several occasions, offering them the services of the department I am now heading to define that boundary as soon as an agreement is reached.

I can assure my hon. friend that my department continues to offer its co-operation in that respect.

[Later:]

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys.

At what university did the minister learn the good plain French in which he answered the questions addressed to him in English by the member for Stormont even though the latter represents a constituency where 68 per cent of the people are French-speaking?

Some hon. Members: Order, Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Dupuis: That is the mark of a small mind.

Mr. Speaker: I must point out to the hon. member that comments on the manner and the language in which replies are given are not allowed in this house.

(Text):

CANADIAN CENTENNIAL

INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I believe my question should be directed to the Prime Minister, and it is this. Can the government at this time indicate when a Canadian centennial commission and commissioner will be established so as to provide the leadership required in the organization of our national celebration?