

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SALE OF U.S. BARLEY TO SAUDI ARABIA—SALE OF WHEAT BY SAUDI ARABIA

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on November 21 last by the Honourable Senator Argue regarding International Trade—Sale of U.S. Barley to Saudi Arabia—Sale of Wheat by Saudi Arabia.

(The answer follows:)

The government can confirm recent U.S. EEP barley sales to Saudi Arabia. The U.S. stated reason for offering EEP barley sales to Saudi Arabia is to counter subsidized competition for the EC. Canada, the U.S. and the EC are all major suppliers in the Saudi Arabian barley market.

The government continues to make representations to the U.S. at the highest levels objecting to the EEP and its adverse impact on Canadian grain producers. Minister for International Trade, John Crosbie, raised Canadian concerns with U.S. Trade Representative, Carla Hills, at the meeting of the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission November 30, with specific reference to the recent EEP barley sale to Saudi Arabia.

● (1510)

SOLICITOR GENERAL

WEIR INQUIRY—REQUEST FOR DETAILED LIST OF EXPENDITURES

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on December 20 and December 19 last by the Honourable Senator Hastings regarding Solicitor General—Weir Inquiry—Request for Detailed List of Expenditures.

(The answer follows:)

The document will be sent directly to the Senator today since it is over 125 pages in length.

CANADA SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

MEETING OF OBJECTIVES

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on December 14 last by the Honourable Senator Marsden respecting Canada Scholarships Program—Meeting of Objectives.

(The answer follows:)

The Canada Scholarships Program was introduced to recognize and encourage more of Canada's outstanding students to pursue undergraduate natural sciences and engineering, fields critical to Canada's future industrial competitiveness.

[Senator Doody.]

Academic excellence underpins the program, and is the basis for the selection of Canada Scholars as well as the retention of their scholarship. Consistent with this focus on excellence, a first-class academic standing is required for scholarship renewal for all students.

Selection of Scholars:

Recognizing that the mobilization of female talent will be a crucial factor in increasing the representation of scientists and engineers in the Canadian labour force, the Program awards a minimum of 50 per cent of the 2,500 new scholarships annually to women.

Both the 1988-89 and 1989-90 programs have fully met the objective of awarding one half of new scholarships to outstanding women. In 1988-89, 51 per cent of scholarships were awarded to women; in 1989-90, the level is 53 per cent. An evaluation of the women's component of the program will be done next year.

Attainment of the larger objectives with respect to increasing the number of students who pursue studies in these fields and the impact on industrial competitiveness can only be assessed in the longer term. A framework for the evaluation against these broader objectives is at present being finalized.

Renewals:

Based on the requirement for a first-class standing to qualify for scholarship renewal, the first year of the program demonstrated a high non-renewal rate, with women experiencing a higher level of non-renewal than men. The final renewal rates were 45.7 per cent for women, and 64 per cent for men.

The non-renewal rate, particularly for women, is a serious concern and a number of studies are currently being conducted to determine the reasons for the high non-renewal rate, its impact and ways to improve the situation. However, any attempt to reduce the renewal requirements would be counter to the program focus on academic excellence.

AGRICULTURE

GRAINS—FINAL PAYMENT FOR 1988-89 CROP YEAR

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on December 20 last by the Honourable Senator Olson respecting Agriculture—Grains—Final Payment for 1988-89 Crop Year.

Hon. H.A. Olson: Is that the one about the final payment?

Senator Doody: A copy is on the way over, senator. It has been distributed.

(The answer follows:)

Attached is a news release issued by the Department of Agriculture on December 18, 1989, outlining the final payment for the 1988-89 crop year, requested by Senator Olson.