

## Questions

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE—DISPOSAL OF  
SURPLUSES**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. What decision, if any, did the joint economic committee of Canada and the United States, at its meeting in Washington, arrive at in regard to disposal of surpluses of (a) wheat; (b) other agricultural products, in each of the said countries at cut rate prices or on give-away terms to needy countries or peoples?

2. How much wheat did Canada sell to (a) Italy; (b) India, in each of the years 1946 to 1953 inclusive?

**Mr. Dickey:**

1. The communique tabled in this house on Friday, March 19, as recorded on pages 3146 of *Hansard* described in detail the discussions which took place in Washington on the 16th of March.

2.

	Wheat	ITALY Flour * in wheat equiv. (bushels)	Total	Wheat	INDIA Flour * in wheat equiv. (bushels)	Total
1946-47 .....	-	6,563,637	6,563,637	2,008,905	1,730,471	3,739,376
1947-48 .....	11,904	1,828,598	1,840,502	-	3,508,889	3,508,889
1948-49 .....	3,719,246	2,230,074	5,949,320	11,315,099	2,520	11,317,619
1949-50 .....	617,775	71,703	689,478	-	239	239
1950-51 .....	12,387,556	4,047,993	16,435,549	11,403,285	-	11,403,285
1951-52 .....	10,961,011	2,572,511	13,533,522	18,141,164	90	18,141,254
1952-53 .....	13,495,035	75,393	13,570,428	14,055,765	243	14,056,008

\* Customs Returns

## BASIS OF PAPER MONEY VALUE

**Mr. Leboe:**

On what value is our paper money presently based?

**Mr. Benidickson:** Bank of Canada notes are legal tender in fulfilment of any contracts made in terms of Canadian money. The Bank of Canada Act provides that these notes shall be redeemable in gold, in the form of bars. It also provides that the bank shall maintain a gold reserve equal to at least 25 per cent of its note and deposit liabilities and may in addition keep a reserve in certain kinds of foreign exchange. At present, the operation of these provisions is suspended, and Canada's official reserves of gold and foreign exchange are centralized in the exchange fund.

The total of Canada's official holdings of gold and United States dollars is published monthly, and at the end of February comprised \$1,007.8 million of gold, and \$845.7 million of United States dollars which are convertible into gold. Both the foregoing amounts are expressed in terms of United States dollars. At the end of February the Bank of Canada's note and deposit liabilities amounted to 1,506 and 837 million Canadian dollars respectively.

CANADIAN PENSION COMMISSION—OUTSIDE  
EMPLOYMENT OF MEMBERS**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. Are any members of the Canadian pension commission engaged in occupations outside their duties as members of the commission?

[Mr. Gregg.]

2. If so, what is the nature of and remuneration for such occupations, in the case of each commissioner involved?

3. How is participation in these outside occupations by members of the pension commission reconciled with the dictates of section 3 (12) of the Pension Act, chapter 207, R.S., 1952?

**Mr. Bennett:**

1. Yes. Dr. J. P. Laplante.

2. Adviser to the Ottawa General Hospital and in that capacity he has no executive responsibility. The commission has no record as to any remuneration.

3. Dr. Laplante's advisory services at the Ottawa General Hospital have not been held to be inconsistent with the performance of his duties as a commissioner, to which he gives full time.

VEGETABLE OILS AND VEGETABLE OIL PRODUCTS  
—IMPORTS 1952-53**Mr. Bryson:**

1. How many pounds of vegetable oil seeds or vegetable oils imported into Canada in the year 1952-53 were used in the manufacture of margarine?

2. What other products were manufactured from vegetable oil seed or vegetable oils imported into Canada in the year 1952-53?

**Mr. Dickey:**

1 and 2. Information not available.

FARM LOAN BOARD—APPLICATIONS FROM  
NEW BRUNSWICK**Mr. Michaud:**

1. How many applications were received by the farm loan board from the province of New Brunswick during the last calendar year?