

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

imports are not the only reason why the prices of eggs fluctuate. As a matter of fact, every year similar fluctuations occur depending on the time when the chickens that will become laying-hens get to the farmers.

This year, imports were equal to only 1 per cent of Canada's total egg production. On the other hand, 65 per cent of that 1 per cent was used for dehydration, for the freezing of eggs employed in food by-products which, if they were not manufactured here in Canada, would have to be imported.

For the information of the hon. member for Bellechasse, I should say that imports are slowly tapering off. In fact, during the month of June imports were as follows: first week, 9800 crates; second week: 4600 crates; third week, 3750 crates; last week, 1500 crates only. Moreover, in July, not a single dozen eggs was imported into Canada.

The department does not foresee other imports at the present time.

Besides, when prices climb a little too high, the manufacturers themselves buy in foreign countries. Production, in the province of Quebec, represents only from 65 to 70 per cent of consumption. Therefore if production is not large enough to meet the needs of consumption, we have to go elsewhere.

Since the farmers organization has now divided the province of Quebec in 16 areas, that indicates a tendency towards planning on the part of farmers—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. The hon. member for Renfrew North.

[*English*]

SPORTS—TROTTING RACES—REFUSAL TO
LICENCE LADY DRIVERS

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew North): Mr. Speaker, this evening I am pleased to continue expanding the question which I asked on July 10 concerning the Canadian Trotting Association and the particular regulation which they have laid down in their by-laws.

The Canadian Trotting Association holds a federal charter and they report to the federal Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson). I wish to repeat the question I asked at that time. It is as follows:

Would he ask the minister to investigate whether or not Rule 17, section 1, of the Canadian Trotting Association rules and regulations, 1969, is contrary to the Bill of Rights, in that it declares the association's refusal to licence lady drivers for extended meets, who have not previously held such a licence—

I had a particular person in mind, Mr. Speaker. She is Miss Sandra Clouthier of R. R. 6, Pembroke, in my constituency. This young lady, who is 18 years of age, is reported to be able to handle horses as well as any man. She comes from a large family. Her father owns between 90 and 100 race horses and she participates in the training of many of those horses.

As hon. members know, many of our young people are becoming more and more interested in all kinds of sports in this country. I think it is rather obnoxious that a by-law should be laid down to prevent them from participating in racing. Nevertheless, Miss Sandra Clouthier has been refused the privilege of racing on race tracks in Canada.

I wish to read Rule 17, section 1 found on page 69 of the by-laws of the Canadian Trotting Association. The preamble reads as follows:

No driver's licence valid for extended meetings will be granted to women drivers who have not held previously such a licence valid for extended meetings.

• (10:20 p.m.)

There is no reference to fall fairs because fall fairs are not considered to be extended meetings. The fact remains that previously lady drivers were allowed to race in Canada, but recently it was decided that those ladies who held licences can renew their licences while those who have come into the field lately cannot. I feel this is a great disadvantage to young people in Canada such as Miss Clouthier. I should like to have the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) make a deep survey into this situation to find out exactly on what legal basis, and on the basis of the Bill of Rights, an association can bring in such a discriminatory bylaw.

Another item connected with this question deals with the one half per cent tax placed on parimutuel betting at our race tracks which now has been raised to one per cent. I understand that originally this tax was supposed to go to the Standard Bred Breeders Associations throughout this country to help the various breeders improve their stock. I also understand that in New York State the tax is two per cent on parimutuel betting and that it goes to the racing stables by way of subsidy to assist the owners to improve their racing stock.

The people from New York state can bring their horses over here to Ontario tracks or to Montreal tracks. They can race here and take home Canadian purses, but I am told that