

TOBACCO PRODUCTION

Mr. HEPBURN:

1. What is the present production of tobacco in
 - A. Canada,
 - B. Ontario,
 - C. Quebec?
2. What is the farm value of annual tobacco crop?
3. What is the growth and present status of export trade?
4. What commercial types of tobacco are grown in Canada?
5. Is Canadian grown leaf used in domestic manufacture? If so, to what extent?
6. Are there any districts in Canada not growing tobacco which may be suitable, in view of the increasing export trade?
7. What steps are being taken to increase our export trade?
8. Through what channels has the work of the department been instrumental in forwarding the tobacco industry to date?
9. What are the possibilities of increasing our export trade?

Hon. Mr. MOTHERWELL:

1. A. For all Canada about 28,000,000 to 35,000,000 pounds.
- B. Ontario—20,000,000 to 25,000,000 pounds.
- C. Quebec—8,000,000 to 10,000,000 pounds.
2. Slightly over \$7,000,000 in each of the last two years, to the growers.
3. The export is practically all in raw leaf form and has increased very rapidly during the last five years, from 200,000 pounds in 1921 to more than 5,000,000 pounds in 1926.
4. A. Ontario—Burley, flue cured, Green River, dark fire cured.
- B. Quebec—Cigar binders, cigar fillers, rough cut pipe smoking.
5. At the present time more than half of the leaf used in manufacture is grown in Canada. Adding to this that portion smoked in the raw leaf state it is estimated that 70 per cent of the tobacco consumed in Canada is grown in Canada.
6. Two years experimental results indicate that the Okanagan valley, B.C., may be able to produce export leaf of superior quality.
7. A. Improving the quality and increasing the quantity of export types in established growing districts.

B. Testing out export types in districts not now growing tobacco commercially.

C. Publicity through exhibits, etc., to acquaint the British trade with the merits of Canadian leaf.

8. Introducing and acclimatizing superior varieties suitable to Canada and Canadian trade.

B. Selecting and improving varieties for Canadian conditions.

C. Testing commonly used varieties and eliminating sorts of inferior commercial value, thus assisting in raising the types and standards of Canadian leaf.

D. Raising large quantities of high quality seed of approved types.

E. Cultural methods in the production of plants and growing the crop as a result of experimental work have materially changed and enormously improved in Ontario and Quebec.

F. Fertilizers. Results of experimental work on fertilization have given farmers reliable information on the proper mixtures and most economical application for different types and on different soils.

G. Experiments and demonstrations in the most efficient and economical handling of tobacco crops in suckering, topping, harvesting, curing, stripping, sorting and packing have had, and are having, a marked influence towards improving the quality of Canadian leaf for domestic and export purposes.

H. The tobacco division during the past nine years has repeatedly demonstrated on the British and other foreign markets the quality and types of leaf produced in Canada. This has had a marked effect in creating interest and confidence in Canadian leaf by British buyers and to no small extent has been responsible for the rapid growth in our export trade and still greater growth in the demand for Canadian tobacco, from other countries.

9. Of the countries importing tobacco the United Kingdom alone imports about 200,000,000 pounds of raw leaf annually. The British tariff gives colonial leaf a preference of 25 per cent of the import duty or approximately 50 cents per pound; hence the British market alone offers enormous possibilities.

OFFICIAL MOTOR CARS

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. J. W. EDWARDS (Frontenac-Addington): I would remind the government that some time ago I put on the order paper two questions, one relating to railway cars used by the various departments, and the other relating to official motor cars. I have received

an answer to the first question, but not to the second. I am very much interested in the kind of automobiles hon. gentlemen are using, and I hope the answer will be sent to me.

Hon. Mr. RINFRET: I will try to table the answer this afternoon.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY

TORONTO OFFICE BUILDING

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. T. L. CHURCH (Toronto Northwest): May I ask the Minister of Railways when the Canadian National Railways will move into their new quarters at the corner of King and Yonge streets, Toronto?

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Railways): Mr. Speaker, I am not informed exactly as to the situation, but my impression is that a move is being made.

CANADIAN MERCHANT MARINE

NEW SHIPS FOR WEST INDIES SERVICE

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. S. F. TOLMIE (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I understand it is the intention of the government to make some additions to the Canadian Merchant Marine in order to look after the West Indies trade. I should like to know if the ships will be built in Canada, and, if so, whether an effort will be made to divide the work between shipyards on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING: Mr. Speaker, at the moment I do not think I can add anything to the statements made during the progress of the debate in that regard. I think my hon. friend will find a full discussion there.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

PORT OF TORONTO

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. E. B. RYCKMAN (East Toronto): Mr. Speaker, I ask the Prime Minister what the government proposes to do in view of the statement on the 12th inst. of Chief Commissioner Brown to Collector of Customs Bertram at Toronto, that the collector should enforce the customs regulations, and thereby put the port of Toronto "out of business" in two weeks' time.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I shall have to take time to read the hon. gentleman's question in order to get the significance of it, Mr. Speaker.

CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—PROTECTION

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. E. J. YOUNG (Weyburn): Mr. Speaker, I would call the attention of the Postmaster General (Mr. Veniot) to unrevised Hansard of Thursday, April 7. At page 2140 he is reported as saying:

During the recess a thorough investigation will be made with a view to devising some scheme by which we can give greater protection to our newspapers and periodicals in competition with American publications.

Was the hon. minister correctly reported? If so, how far will he be prepared to go in that direction?

Hon. P. J. VENIOT (Postmaster General): My reference to protection was not in the sense that perhaps my hon. friend understands it. What I was referring to was the protection of our newspaper publishers and dealers against the influx of American newspapers and periodicals of a nature such as was discussed on that occasion—that is, detrimental to the morals of our youth.

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 3 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 94)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
 ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
 CANADA