

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, February 21, 1967

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

PRIVILEGE

MR. FAIRWEATHER—DISPOSITION OF CHEQUE RECEIVED FROM C.B.C.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege which affects my position here and also my integrity. Today's issue of the *Toronto Globe and Mail* recites that I, among others, endorsed a cheque I received from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

I did receive a cheque from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Speaker, and I would not want to take the time of this house to tell the house how hard I tried to get rid of that cheque. I was told by a producer of the program that I should sign what was called a cast sheet because union regulations required every participant in a program to sign one. As a Progressive Conservative, of course, how could I possibly cross a picket line, so to speak, and fail to obey the union's directive in this regard? Therefore I signed the cast sheet.

I was assured, Mr. Speaker, that no cheque would be sent. A cheque was sent. I telephoned the producer in Toronto, who said that there was a memo on this subject which would be reactivated. I said that I was endorsing the cheque to the Canadian University Service Overseas, that I would neither put the cheque into income nor use the receipt as a deduction for income tax purposes. I also wrote to the financial office of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation telling them this, also saying that it was both illegal and unethical for me to accept a cheque. I thought this manner of dealing with the matter would show the corporation and anybody else that no personal impropriety on my part was involved.

● (2:40 p.m.)

UNITED NATIONS

RHODESIA—TABLING OF REGULATIONS UNDER SANCTIONS RESOLUTION

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I wish to table copies in English and French of regulations made today

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as part of Canada's compliance with the mandatory security council resolution on Rhodesia of December 16, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member leave to table these documents?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

AGRICULTURE

SUGAR BEETS—ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPORT PRICE

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I wish to announce that the government has authorized the agricultural stabilization board to support the price of sugar beets for the 1967 crop by a deficiency payment program at a national support level of \$15.50 per standard ton.

The over-all program will include an added stabilizing feature designed to standardize returns in Ontario, which in the past have been adversely affected by low world prices for sugar.

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent (Ont.)): Mr. Speaker, we are glad to hear the government announce the increased payment for sugar beets. Certainly the \$15.50, the figure quoted by the government is more in keeping with the expenses of the industry today than the \$14.35 which prevailed up to this time. This increase will give the industry in Ontario a chance to contract for the necessary acreage for this year.

This is just a temporary measure. In no way does it settle the vital problems facing this industry today. The sooner the government enters into an international agreement on sugar to enable producers to obtain enough from the sale of their sugar beets, removing the need for constant subsidies, the more stable will be the sugar industry not only in Ontario but in the other affected provinces of this country.

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Revelstoke): I should like to comment briefly on the announcement regarding the stabilization price for sugar beets. We welcome it. I also reiterate the desirability of having a Canadian sugar policy that would make this type of continuing stopgap arrangement unnecessary.