

LIVESTOCK

RABIES—COMPENSATION TO ONTARIO FARMERS
FOR LOSS IN OUTBREAKS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture and, in his absence, for the acting minister. Inasmuch as I have sent him notice of my intention to ask this question perhaps I could expect an answer.

Due to the increased incidence of rabies in Grey and Bruce counties as well as in other sections of Ontario, would the acting minister say whether the Department of Agriculture will again co-operate in the payment of compensation to farmers for losses of livestock through this disease?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Acting Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very glad as acting minister of agriculture to look into that matter and give the hon. member an answer as soon as possible.

ONTARIO

INQUIRY AS TO BY-ELECTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question based upon a statement which appeared in the *Toronto Telegram* of January 15 and, I believe, made in the presence of the Prime Minister by the Minister of Finance to the effect that the by-elections in Ontario were little general elections the importance of which is paramount. In view of this statement—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have not heard the hon. member's question but the factual basis clearly indicates it does not involve the administrative responsibilities of the government.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Well, Mr. Speaker, I thought the fact that this was a statement made by one of Her Majesty's ministers of the crown gave the question the required validity. However, I shall bow to Your Honour's ruling and simply ask the Prime Minister who is in a very happy mood today whether the cataclysmic events of yesterday have caused him to give any consideration as to when the next federal general election will take place?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): When a question is asked in such a mellifluous way, naturally it demands an answer. I remember when the hon. gentleman was sitting over here on this side of the chamber and the then government lost nine,

Inquiries of the Ministry

ten or eleven federal byelections. When we asked a similar question, they said, "Wait until the general election". We waited and the government went back.

WATER RESOURCES

REPORTED DIVERSION FROM JAMES BAY
TO GREAT LAKES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hubert Badanai (Fort William): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It has been reported that Governor Kerner of Illinois has been pressing President Kennedy's administration for a deal with Canada for diversion of more water from the James bay watershed into the great lakes system. Can the minister inform the house whether a deal has been made or whether such negotiations are now in progress?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker; there are no negotiations in progress between Canada and the United States on any such plan.

COMBINES

RAW FISH—INQUIRY AS TO
ACTIVITIES OF COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Can he say what progress is being made by the restrictive trade practices commission with regard to hearings into the production, sale and distribution of raw fish in British Columbia, which hearings have been postponed by a number of court injunctions.

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): I checked on that matter, Mr. Speaker, two days or so ago. My information is that one of the injunction proceedings restraining the commission with respect to a certain course was disposed of in British Columbia the other day. There is therefore now just one further stage with respect to one of these injunction proceedings to be settled or disposed of in the Supreme Court of Canada. As soon as that has taken place, the hearings can and will be resumed.

AIR TRANSPORT

C.P.A.—APPROVAL OF FLIGHTS FROM WESTERN
CANADA TO LONDON

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Can he say whether the announcement he made on behalf of the government toward the