

FISHERIES

RESTRICTIONS IN SAINT JOHN HARBOUR AND BAY OF FUNDY

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): A question to the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the salmon fishing restriction in Saint John harbour about which eloquent objections were raised last week. Has the minister received a telegram from the fisheries minister of New Brunswick expressing dissatisfaction with the decision taken on the grounds that it was made without proper consultation and consideration? And did the minister say in this connection that he would be looking into the matter again?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): I have not received the telegram which the hon. member mentioned.

Mr. Bell: When the minister does receive it through the courtesy of the Postmaster General or whoever is answerable, will he make a reply to the house on this important matter?

GRAIN

WHEAT—QUOTA FOR WESTERN FARMERS

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Mr. Speaker. What quota does the Canadian Wheat Board hope to provide western farmers by the end of July?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): The best possible one, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Thomson: I was hoping for a more direct answer. Is it the intention of the board to equalize its quotas as between delivery points by the end of July?

Mr. Pepin: That is generally the policy of the Wheat Board, Mr. Speaker. I was not trying to be funny when I replied a moment ago. It is simply that it is impossible, now, to know what will happen in July.

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION TO ASSIST PRAIRIE FARMERS

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): On Thursday last, Mr. Speaker, I directed a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In his absence, the acting minister took note of it. I should like to repeat the question, now.

29180—559

Inquiries of the Ministry

In view of the fact that the committee mechanics seem to preclude the bringing in of an early report and related policy recommendations following the recent tour of western Canada by the Standing Committee on Agriculture, will the minister consider making an interim statement of government policy designed to alleviate immediately the critical economic situation facing western farmers today?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be improper for a minister to comment on the mechanics or procedure of one of the standing committees of this house. I think that answers the first part of the question. So far as the latter part of the question is concerned, I have answered that a number of times in the house.

WHEAT—REQUEST FOR LARGER QUOTA IN MANITOBA

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Since a number of delivery points in Manitoba are still on a one bushel quota or just on a one unit quota for dry wheat, will the minister advise the house when these points can expect larger quotas?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, instructions are to give a preferential basis to those points that are still on unit quotas.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise the house why most points on low quotas are Canadian Pacific delivery points?

Mr. Pepin: No, Mr. Speaker. If there is a specific reason I will try to discover it and report to the house.

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

He is probably aware that the Quebec government has recently signed a very important contract with the Brinco Company regarding the development of the Churchill falls and I should like to ask the Prime Minister if Mr. Jean-Noël Tremblay, the Quebec Minister of Cultural Affairs, has been in touch with the federal government or with him in order to complain because the said contract was drafted only in English?