

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL ACT

AMENDMENTS CONSOLIDATING ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENT

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 393, to amend the Atomic Energy Control Act.

Mr. Green: Will the minister explain?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): This bill, Mr. Speaker, is primarily for the purpose of consolidating all the government's activities in the field of atomic energy into one organization. In that way our organization will parallel the atomic energy commission of the United States and the corporation that is responsible for atomic energy matters in the United Kingdom. There is to be some change in the relationship between the atomic energy control board and the corporations that carry out the actual operations of the board which I believe will be more easily explained when the bill is under discussion.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

DREDGE "KING EDWARD"

Mr. Hahn:

1. Did the *King Edward* dredge do any work for the government on the Fraser river during 1953?
2. If so, is this dredge owned by the government?
3. Were supplies purchased in connection with its operations during 1953?
4. If so, (a) what type of supplies; (b) from whom were they purchased; (c) at what price?
5. Were tenders called for such supplies?
6. If this dredge is privately owned, what are the names of the owners?

Mr. Bourget:

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.

4. (a) (b) (c)

Type of supplies	From whom purchased	Price
Fuel oil	Standard Oil Co.	\$28,155.63
Diesel oil	See answer to No. 5	246.27
Gasoline	" " " " "	17.92
Rope	" " " " "	2,023.32
Grease	" " " " "	255.44
Lubricating oil	" " " " "	1,230.48
Galley coal	" " " " "	1,411.00
Galley sundries	" " " " "	722.96

5. Tenders were called for the supply of fuel oil only; other items were obtained from sources adjacent to the position of the dredge when they were required.

6. Answered by No. 2.

Questions

MARGARINE AND BUTTER—COMPARATIVE FOOD VALUE

Mr. Poulin:

1. Is the nutrition division of the Department of National Health and Welfare in a position to give a scientific opinion establishing a comparison between the food value of margarine and butter?

2. If so, what in their opinion is the comparative food value of these products?

Mr. Robertson:

1. Yes, on the analyses of any given specific samples.

2. Both butter and margarine are variable products, partly due to variations in the natural products used, and partly due to the process of manufacture.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PAYMENTS

Mr. MacInnis:

1. How many persons were in receipt of unemployment insurance for the following months: (a) December, 1952; (b) December, 1953; (c) January, 1953; (d) January, 1954; (e) February, 1953; (f) February, 1954?

2. What amount of unemployment insurance benefits was paid out each month for the same periods?

Mr. Gregg: Estimated number of beneficiaries at the end of each of the following months (1) and amount of gross benefits paid in each of the following months (2):

	(1)	(2)
December, 1952 ..	164,159 ..	\$10,926,557.00
December, 1953 ..	218,323 ..	16,882,107.00
January, 1953 ..	262,429 ..	18,434,646.00
January, 1954 ..	390,652 ..	25,149,945.00
February, 1953 ..	298,328 ..	20,596,120.00
February, 1954 —	Figures not yet available.	

It will be noted that the number of persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits at the end of January 1954 was higher than the estimated number of people "without jobs and seeking work" from the dominion bureau of statistics' labour force survey for a number of reasons.

This latter estimate, which is based on a sample survey of the population, includes only people who did not work at all during the survey week and who were reported during the household interviews as seeking work.

The number of people receiving unemployment insurance benefits, on the other hand, includes most of these people and besides many others who were on lay-offs, due to bad weather, shortage of materials, plant breakdowns, etc., with instructions to return to work, who were working on a short-time basis or who had lost or found a job during the week.