

Inquires of the Ministry

that the use of eggs as loss leaders in Nelson and Trail is having a ruinous effect on the poultry industry, forcing some long established poultrymen out of business and also doing a great deal of damage to small retail business in the area, would the minister give consideration to recommending an investigation into these nefarious business activities in this area by the director of investigation and research under the Combines Investigation Act?

Hon. J. W. Browne (Acting Minister of Justice): I will take the question as notice and give an answer tomorrow.

AGRICULTURE

PULPWOOD—INQUIRY AS TO SUPPORT PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture arising out of reports of speeches he has made to farm groups across the country. Has the minister reopened consideration of the policy matter arising out of farmers' and settlers' pulpwood marketing problems and the possibility of support prices for farm pulpwood?

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, in discussions with farm organizations in areas concerned with such matters as pulpwood this question has been considered.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INQUIRY AS TO INCLUSION OF FARM LABOURERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Labour a question arising out of the necessity of bringing the Canadian farm labourer under the Unemployment Insurance Act. Has the minister given serious consideration to this matter? If so, when can we expect this to be done?

Mr. Speaker: Order. If the minister is prepared to declare government policy in answer to the question I will not prevent him from doing so. However, the question is one relating to the announcement of government policy, which is not ordinarily asked for on the orders of the day.

Mr. Argue: We should like to hear the answer.

[Later:]

Mr. Rapp: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Has the minister received any report from

the committee that was set up to investigate whether farm labourers are eligible for unemployment insurance?

Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, we have asked the unemployment insurance commission to give careful study to the possibility of bringing farm labourers under the act as an insured class. The unemployment insurance commission has been giving careful study to this problem, but because of the many difficulties involved in this inclusion they have not as yet reported to me or the government.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillington): Mr. Speaker, could I ask the minister a supplementary question. Can the minister say whether consideration is being given to the voluntary inclusion, as opposed to the compulsory inclusion, of this class?

Mr. Starr: Both aspects are being considered.

(Translation):

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF LEGISLATION CONCERNING CANADIAN SHIPYARDS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Bourget (Levis): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport (Mr. Balcer) a question. Can the minister tell me whether, at such time as he introduces the bill regarding Canadian shipyards, he intends to submit this legislation to a committee of the house so that all concerned may air their views on the matter?

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister whether the government proposes to introduce this legislation before the Easter recess.

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, no decision has yet been reached with regard to referring the resolution to a committee of the house. As to the second part of the question, I trust that the bill aiming to help the shipbuilding industry in this country can be introduced in this house in the nearest possible future.

(Text):

TELEVISION

REPORTED DELAY IN ACTION ON BROADCAST BOARD DECISIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. M. Benidickson (Kenora-Rainy River): I should like to address to the Minister of Transport a question of which I have given him notice. Can he indicate what are the reasons for the delay in taking action in connection with three decisions of the board