

valuable than wheat. I understand that other boats are on their way there, and as they are able to dock in Montreal and take on cargoes of wheat, space will be provided for western grain. We hope to see a considerable movement under way in about ten days, but unfortunately we have to wait for favourable weather.

### TRADE

#### WEST INDIES—REFUSAL OF ALLOTMENT TO SUPREME POWER SUPPLIES LIMITED

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. W. Noseworthy (York South):** May I direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce? Has his department received any application from Supreme Power Supplies Limited in Toronto for an allotment under the British West Indies trade liberalization plan? If so, was it rejected, and if it was rejected under what conditions may this company expect to secure a future allotment?

**Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** The hon. member was kind enough to give me notice of his intention to ask this question. For the past four years the Department of Trade and Commerce has operated the British West Indies trade liberalization plan, under which Canadian exporters with a history of trade in the British West Indies in the base years 1946, 1947 and 1948 are entitled to quotas based on 40 per cent of their average exports in this three-year period.

In 1952, as a further measure of relaxation, the colonies agreed to the reallocation of unused quotas and we were able to take care of several Canadian manufacturers who had not been exporting in the base period. Unfortunately, the amount available was not sufficient to take care of all Canadian firms interested in the British West Indies market.

On October 17, 1952, Supreme Power Supplies Limited asked for a special allocation of \$5,000 to cover the shipment of transformers to Bridgetown, Barbados. We pointed out to them at that time that we did not have sufficient funds, but if further existing quotas were unused we might be able to take care of them later in the year. Unfortunately, this did not prove to be possible. We have had no further request from Supreme Power Supplies Limited since 1952. If this firm is still interested in the British West Indies market we could give them a small quota at this time.

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

#### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

##### INQUIRY AS TO PURCHASE OF PATROL BOAT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Donald M. Fleming (Eglinton):** May I ask the Minister of Justice if it is not the policy of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to purchase needed equipment in Canada when available from Canadian sources? If so, is that policy now being followed with respect to the purchase of a patrol boat which is to be a prototype of other boats required for R.C.M.P. services?

**Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice):** My hon. friend has not given me notice of this question but I will be glad to take his question as notice and look up the details of the case he mentioned.

### CUSTOMS

#### REQUEST FOR OPENING OF OFFICE AT MILTON

On the orders of the day:

**Miss Sybil Bennett (Halton):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the urgent communications which I received this morning from the town council of Milton, would the minister tell the house when he expects to open a customs office in the town of Milton?

**Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was good enough to give me notice of this question. Other than as indicated in the question, no recent representations have come to my attention concerning this matter. I shall, however, look into it and report the decision of the department when one is made. We are always willing to service any community where it can be shown that our services are necessary and that there is sufficient business to warrant the opening of an office.

### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

#### SALE OF LITERATURE AT NEWSSTAND IN CHATEAU LAURIER

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is it the policy of the Canadian National Railways to permit the sale of the appalling trash sold under the name of literature on the newsstand of the Chateau Laurier hotel? If so, is this "literature" picked out for the hotel by any department, either the Canadian National Railways or the Department of Transport?