

Supply—Justice

These men were left there and they are a monument to the previous Liberal government.

I say these men were brought there during the last war. At least, I was frank enough to admit that whatever steps the Conservative government took in this particular area, they were not of much help. However, at that time the area was declared a depressed area and received some benefits under that particular legislation. The fact is that it would take a large pool of labour to build a penitentiary of this nature. The unemployment insurance office in the district said that they had such a pool of labour because the unemployed coal miners had become skilled in other trades and could be used on this project. For these two reasons, I press the minister tonight to get this project started so that there will be some attempt at rehabilitation of these children who have been convicted and placed in the penitentiaries of this country. I want to repeat that if John Howard, the great prison reformer, were to see some of the conditions under which these children are living he would be shocked. If he would be shocked now, in the light of conditions in his day when he brought about reform, one can readily envisage the conditions.

We can sit here, like corporation lawyers, who never go down to the police court. If they ever went down there, as one did recently to bail out his son, they would find that these places are in need of reconditioning. They are a disgrace. I refer especially to the places where people are held while awaiting bail. People say, you have a bill of rights, but try to get a solicitor when you are in one of these places. If you get one, then try to get bail. It might be your daughter or your son or it might even be you. I say this is one of the most disgraceful things we have in Canada today. I trust that the Minister of Justice will make sure that something is really done in connection with the reforms to which I have referred.

Mr. Deachman: I enter this debate briefly this evening on the question of the recent changes in the price of sugar. This is a matter which has been mentioned in this house today, and recently by the hon. member for Lapointe. The intimations are that some kind of conspiracy exists in connection with the price of sugar, and that this is a question which should be brought before the Minister of Justice for reference to the restrictive trade practices commission. It is with this in mind that I should like to make a few remarks this evening.

Let us look first of all at raw sugar prices. By raw sugar prices I mean the prices which the manufacturer or refiner of sugar in

Canada must pay in order to land sugar in Canada for refining purposes. Last year around this time the price was 6.5 cents per pound. The figures I shall give you are from the *Financial Post*, and the dates which I give you are the dates of the *Financial Post* on the day raw sugar prices are quoted. The price quotations for raw sugar per pound are, in the *Financial Post* of October 5, 1963, 8.2 cents; on October 12, it had moved up to 8.5 cents. On October 19, it had moved up to 9 cents, and in the current issue, October 26, raw sugar prices had moved up to 9.7 cents.

Now, what should cause the price of sugar to rise over a relatively short time at such a rapid rate?

Looking back over the course of the last couple of years we find that the world's production of cane sugar—and these are cane sugar prices I am dealing with—fell below world consumption by 3 million tons. This was the case in 1962-63, and also in 1961-62 production was slightly under consumption, so that for the past two years world inventories have been shrinking, and the cane sugar crop has not come up to world demand or world consumption. We may add to that the virtual removal of Cuba from the world trading market in sugar, as we know it.

Despite the shrinkage in production the sugar market responded early in the fall, as a result of optimistic predictions as to what the current sugar crop would be. On looking at the *Financial Post* of August 10, 1963, I see that in response to predictions that the crop would be fairly good the local refinery price, that is the finished sugar price in Canada, responded sensitively to this indication that prices would drop. I quote from that issue of the *Financial Post*:

Refinery price early this week was \$13.45 per 100 pound bag in the Toronto area. This works out to 67.25 cents per five pound bag (there is an additional delivery charge.) Refinery price in late May-63 was 91.75 cents per five pound bag. This price now is down by 27 per cent in a little over two months.

As quickly as price changes appeared in the raw sugar market the local refinery markets reacted sensitively, and one could not call this a conspiracy to rig the price.

Let me deal for a moment with the question of what makes up sugar prices in Canada. First of all the Canadian sugar price is affected by the sugar tariff. This is an old, unchanged tariff dating back for a considerable number of years. In connection with this tariff I would like to quote from the 1957 restrictive trade practices commission report on the sugar industry in Canada. This says that the commonwealth preference tariff is 28.7 cents per 100 pounds, so that to get the Canadian price of raw sugar you must take