

*Inquiries of the Ministry***BUTTER****SALE TO EAST GERMANY—INQUIRY AS TO TERMS OF CONTRACT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. Wilfrid Dufresne (Quebec West): Would the Minister of Trade and Commerce give the house the terms of the contract for the sale of 7 million pounds of storage butter which is alleged to be destined to East Germany?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I am sure my colleague the Minister of Agriculture will be glad to do that.

Mr. Dufresne: Then I ask the same question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner (Minister of Agriculture): I do not believe I can agree with the figures that were used with regard to the sale, Mr. Speaker, but with regard to any sales of butter that have been made recently, some of them to Czechoslovakia and others to Eastern Germany, those to Czechoslovakia were at 39 cents a pound and those to Eastern Germany at 37 cents a pound. The butter was sold, of course, for delivery through a certain agency.

Mr. Dufresne: May I ask a supplementary question? Are the freight and handling charges paid by the government or the purchaser?

Mr. Gardiner: The price is as of Montreal. [Later:]

Mr. Dufresne: I wish to ask a question supplementary to the question I asked of the Minister of Agriculture a few minutes ago. I would like to know the terms of these sales. Were they cash sales? What were the terms really between Canada and the other party?

Mr. Gardiner: Cash against documents at Montreal on the price level that I stated.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION**CF-105—INQUIRY AS TO DATE OF PRODUCTION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John B. Hamilton (York West): Can the Minister of Defence Production give the house any estimate as to the date when production of the CF-105 will commence at the A. V. Roe plant at Malton? Can he report on what progress has been made in that connection?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Defence Production): Steady progress is being made, Mr. Speaker, on the pre-production models

[Mr. Pearson.]

of the CF-105. My hon. friend will understand that the production line does not start until several planes have been made, tested and adjusted, so when he speaks of the date of production it is difficult to set a date. The work is proceeding steadily with some success, I believe.

STORMS**MARITIME PROVINCES—DISLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION—ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSPORTING MAIL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. C. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings): May I direct a question to the Postmaster General, notice of which I have not sent him. In view of the dislocation of transportation in Nova Scotia, particularly, can the minister tell us what arrangements, if any, are being made by the Post Office Department for the transportation of mail throughout the province?

Hon. Hugues Lapointe (Postmaster General): We are endeavouring to remedy the situation as quickly as possible. Of course when the means of transportation are interrupted they are interrupted for the Postmaster General as for the rest of the people. We are trying to take all the emergency means available to meet the situation.

Mr. Nowlan: Are you using trucks now?

Mr. Lapointe: Yes.

INQUIRY AS TO RESTORATION OF TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. MacLean (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. Has the minister any report to make on the progress made in re-establishing telegraphic communications in the maritime provinces after the damage caused by the recent weather conditions there?

Hon. George C. Marler (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I must answer that I am unable to give any reply to my hon. friend this afternoon.

(Translation):

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**QUEEN ELIZABETH HOTEL—REQUEST THAT NAME BE CHANGED TO CHATEAU MAISONNEUVE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. Wilfrid Dufresne (Quebec West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Could the minister tell the house if his department is still considering the possibility of changing