

Mr. Dinsdale: In view of the fact that the service has been suspended for some three years, and in view of the Prime Minister's promise in 1974 that this service would be renewed, can the minister give an assurance that a service would be in place before the busy summer season?

Mr. Lang: I am not sure that I can give that assurance because there are certain complications in terms of the decisions by carriers and decisions by the CTC. But I can tell the hon. member that I consider the matter to be a high priority question and one to which I am giving close attention.

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TRADE

REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPORTATION OF EGGS— SUGGESTION DOMESTIC DEMANDS MET BEFORE CHANGES MADE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. On March 25, as reported on page 12136 of *Hansard*, the minister gave the assurance to the hon. member for Lisgar that he would look into the question which the hon. member raised with respect to the importation of eggs and matters related thereto. My question is founded on the proposal currently before the minister to give exclusive jurisdiction to the Canadians Egg Marketing Agency over importation of eggs to Canada. In view of the inability of CEMA to be able to adequately control its own production to satisfy Canadian needs, and in view of the fact that one Canadian processing plant has already had to close down in Winnipeg because of its inability to get a permit to have eggs brought into Canada, may I ask the minister if he will satisfy himself that the Canadian market demands are satisfactorily met before any changes are made in the jurisdiction which he has over the importation of eggs?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Yes, Mr. Speaker. My colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, and I have been discussing this matter at some length. The proposal which the hon. member has outlined is being considered, but certainly it is not the only one. I am quite sure we will be able to arrive at an arrangement which will meet the hon. member's concern, namely that the market be dealt with properly. I will certainly assure myself of that and so will the Minister of Agriculture, I am sure, before any decision is made.

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AGRICULTURE

EGGS—ASSURANCE OF SUPPLIES FOR BAKERS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Is it his intention to take immediate steps to ensure that Canadian market demands are satisfactorily met and that the breakers' trade is able to get its supplies in order to make sure that the confectionery and bakery trades in Canada are assured of adequate supplies, and will he take immediate steps to

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ensure that the necessary import orders are granted to the Canadian breakers' trade?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have always said that if the marketing board could not make the proper supplies to the consumer market and the processing market, imports should be allowed into the country. But this is not as easy and as simple as the hon. member makes it sound, because I am told there are ample supplies in Canada. But some of the imports which are being requested at the present time are unwarranted because there are thousands of cases every week taken off the market as surplus and being put into the breaking trade.

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● (1130)

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF PRICE OF GASOLINE SOLD TO FARMERS

Mr. Robert Daudlin (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the increasing percentage of input costs which energy has been taking with respect to the production of food, and in view of the fact that these costs are ultimately passed on to the consumer, will the acting minister undertake to have the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs investigate reports that the wholesale cost of gasoline to farm distributors is two cents per gallon above the rate at which similar gas is being sold to wholesalers for regular consumption, and if this is the case, will the minister instruct his department to take corrective action?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Acting Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will look into this as early as Monday.

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IMMIGRATION

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Can he confirm the report that the Prime Minister told some representatives of the Portuguese community in Toronto that special consideration—I think he used the phrase “bend the rules”—would be given to the residents or former residents of Angola and Mozambique who are now living in destitution in Portugal with regard to admission to Canada? If such special consideration is contemplated, could the minister tell us the nature of the consideration to be given to them?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have looked at the transcript of the comments of the Prime Minister. He expressed sympathy, which I have expressed as well, and he indicated that we would look again, as we have many times, at