

VETERANS AFFAIRS

HOSPITAL INSURANCE COVERAGE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Has the Minister of Veterans Affairs received representations from the Canadian Legion concerning arrangements for the provision of hospital insurance coverage in British Columbia for returning defence personnel and their dependents now denied it? If so, is consideration being given by the minister to the representations of the British Columbia command of the Canadian Legion?

Hon. Hugues Lapointe (Minister of Veterans Affairs): The answer to the first part of the question is no. As to the second part, of course if representations are received they will get the consideration and action they always do, as the record shows.

PUBLIC SERVICE

SUGGESTED APPOINTMENT OF WOMAN MEMBER TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Miss Margaret Aitken (York-Humber): I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. Is it the government's intention to appoint a woman to the civil service commission?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): This matter has been under consideration, Mr. Speaker, and a decision had been reached in that connection but the person we desired to appoint felt she was not desirous of accepting the appointment and the matter is still under consideration because we would like to have a competent woman acting on the civil service commission.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO SHIPMENT OF AIRCRAFT TO EGYPT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Alistair Stewart (Winnipeg North): Has the Secretary of State for External Affairs anything further to add to the answer he gave to my question yesterday concerning the shipment of Canadian aircraft to Egypt?

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The matter is still under investigation but I should have thought my hon. friend would have been satisfied with the answer to his own question which he gave to the press after the sitting yesterday.

Mr. Stewart (Winnipeg North): I should like to address a question now to the Prime Minister. Can the right hon. gentleman inform

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Inquiries of the Ministry

me when the right hand of the government will know what the left hand is doing?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): It is not within my knowledge that there is any right or left hand concerned in this matter at this time.

LIVESTOCK

MAINTENANCE OF FLOOR PRICE ON HOGS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Bryson (Humboldt-Melfort): Can the Minister of Agriculture assure the house that the present floor price on hogs will be maintained in 1956?

Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner (Minister of Agriculture): The present floor price on hogs was set about two years ago, I think, Mr. Speaker, and when it is discontinued the government will announce the fact.

[Later:]

Mr. E. G. McCullough (Moose Mountain): I should like to direct to the Minister of Agriculture a question supplementary to that asked by the hon. member for Humboldt-Melfort. Can the minister state the floor price paid for hogs on the Winnipeg market?

Mr. Gardiner: The floor price for grade A hogs on the Winnipeg market is \$20.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): Then, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a further supplementary question. I have here a receipt—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): —dated January 3, which indicates that a price of \$18.85—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Will the hon. member be good enough to put his supplementary question?

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): Yes. I should like to ask the minister whether he is aware that a price of \$18.85 is being paid for grade A hogs on the Winnipeg market?

Mr. Gardiner: I am quite satisfied no such price has been paid.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REQUEST THAT AIR-SEA RESCUE SERVICE BE AUGMENTED

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. R. Pearkes (Esquimalt-Saanich): May I direct a question to the Minister of Transport? In view of the recent losses at sea on the west coast, will the minister augment the existing air-sea rescue service by the provision of helicopters for that work?

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