

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. G. L. Chatterton (Esquimalt-Saanich): Could the minister indicate to what extent this large increase in the number of applications—an increase which is the result of the policies of the previous government—was caused by the fear of the tax increase to 8 per cent coming up next March?

Mr. Garland: I think the statement I have made speaks for itself.

Mr. Pugh: So will the 11 per cent tax.

Mr. K. H. More (Regina City): I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Revenue. Can he give the house a breakdown by provinces of those applications to which he referred?

Mr. Garland: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. More: Will the minister get it?

house whether he still intends to appoint a minister of agriculture for eastern Canada?

[Text]

Mr. Speaker: This question is at most one for the order paper, if it is in order at all. I believe it has been asked before.

CONGRATULATIONS ON INCOME OF WESTERN FARMERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Walter F. Foy (Lambton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Trade and Commerce for enabling western farmers to enjoy the largest average income they have ever had.

SUGAR

INQUIRY AS TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): May I take this opportunity to answer a question directed to the Prime Minister by the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam on the subject of negotiations with the commonwealth countries on the sugar question. I am sorry I was not here yesterday. I was enjoying the warm hospitality of the people of Winnipeg or, more correctly, the people of the city of St. James where, as all hon. members should know, the beautiful new airport building is located.

As indicated to the house on November 12, I have informed both the commonwealth exporters' group and the Rhodesian producers that we would be interested in considering with them any proposals they might wish to lay before us. Since that time we have had further communications not only from the commonwealth exporters but also from South Africa and Cuba, and we are awaiting their proposals.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INQUIRY AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF GILL REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Megantic): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Considering the difficulties which are being encountered by the unemployed of our country in their dealings with the unemployment insurance commission at this time, is it the intention of the minister to apply some of the recommendations of the Gill report as soon as it is possible to do so?

INDUSTRY

HEAVY WATER PLANT—REPORTED CALL FOR TENDERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland): I have a question for the Minister of Industry. Is the minister now in a position to enlarge on his remarks of Tuesday regarding the calling of tenders and the location of a heavy water plant in Canada?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Coates: How long may we expect to have to wait?

Mr. Drury: As soon as possible.

AIR TRANSPORT

REFUELLING IN CANADA OF AIRCRAFT TO AND FROM CUBA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Do Cuban aircraft and aircraft from iron curtain countries en route to and from Cuba still land and refuel at our bases in Canada?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): I should like to take the question as notice.

AGRICULTURE

EARLY APPOINTMENT OF MINISTER FOR EASTERN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister. Could he tell the