

AGRICULTURE

POSSIBILITY OF INCREASE IN SUBSIDY ON MILK USED FOR MAKING CHEESE

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the statement by the right hon. Prime Minister on Tuesday last respecting the subsidy on fluid milk to a maximum of five cents per quart, is the minister considering an increase in the subsidy for manufacturing milk used in the making of cheese?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): No, Mr. Speaker. We raised the return for manufacturing milk on August 1 by the equivalent of \$1 a hundred. We had previously raised it, earlier in the year, by the equivalent of 60 cents a hundred. That is what the producers asked for at that time. We do know that some of their costs have gone down since that time.

PASSING ON OF ENTIRE BENEFIT OF FLUID MILK SUBSIDY TO CONSUMERS

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. Will he indicate specifically how the government plans to make certain that the entire benefit of the milk subsidy will be passed on to the consumer?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, if it is not passed on to the consumer no one will receive it.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PROVISION OF BENEFITS TO RAILWAY EMPLOYEES LAID OFF BECAUSE OF STRIKE

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that those railway employees who were laid off by the railway companies because of the strike but who were not directly involved in the strike still have not received a decision as far as unemployment insurance claims are concerned, and as many of these employees have not had any income for some six weeks, will the minister advise whether a decision has been made and, if not, will he see to it that a decision is made in the immediate future?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, a decision was made last week and that information was transmitted to all unemployment insurance offices across the country, along with an instruction to proceed with special measures to speed the processing of claims for those entitled to benefits.

Oral Questions

CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES

ACTION TO HALT SERVICING OF AIRCRAFT OUTSIDE CANADA IN LIGHT OF MACHINISTS' STRIKE

Mr. Paddy Neale (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact there is a legal strike in effect between the International Association of Machinists and Canadian Pacific Airlines, would the minister inform the House what action his department has taken to halt the ferrying of CP Air DC8 aircraft No. 801 to World Air Centre in Oakland, California, on September 9 of this year for overhaul and repair, as requested by the IAM by telegram on September 7?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, under international agreement all airlines can have their normal repairs made outside the country; this is not new. If they are doing it in order to avoid the strike, there are some other provisions in our laws that would prevent Canadian Pacific Airlines from doing so. I know that they asked to be relieved of those financial obligations, and I do not think that the government accepted that.

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● (1150)

[Translation]

ENERGY

OIL—PROPOSED EXTENSION OF PIPELINE TO MONTREAL—IMPACT ON PRICES IN QUEBEC

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, in order to avoid a supplementary, I will ask a twofold question to the hon. Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

As regards the oil pipeline recently referred to in an announcement, since the information available at this time indicates that for many years to come imported oil in Quebec will cost less than western oil, can the minister give us the assurance that the implementation of that project would guarantee to Quebecers prices identical to those of imported products?

And secondly, would the minister also indicate, since his Quebec counterpart expressed his surprise at not having been consulted in that respect, whether it is his intention to negotiate or discuss the matter with the Quebec minister in the next few days?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out the fact that we have had discussions with Quebec representatives in July on all matters relating to energy, particularly on the construction of an oil pipeline to Montreal. And I will have next week the opportunity to meet with my Quebec counterpart and I will again be most interested in having his opinion on the matter.

As to prices, I must say that one of the considerations is that the international price of crude oil keeps on increasing; for that reason, we are very much concerned about a situation where the Montreal market must pay a higher price than other parts of Canada. It is for that reason—