

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar was seeking to ask a supplementary question. Perhaps the hon. member would defer his until later.

Mr. C. O. Cooper (Rosetown-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question may I ask if it would be possible to have the wheat board open all points to 7 bushels before the end of the crop year?

Mr. Churchill: I think that is possible, Mr. Speaker. As of two days ago only 128 points were on 6 bushels. It looks as if all stations will be on the 7-bushel quota by the end of the week.

Mr. Argue: I should like to ask the minister how many hundreds of marketing points there will be where delivery space will not be available on the 7-bushel quota. How many days of grace will the farmers have in the new crop year in order to deliver on the old quota?

Mr. Churchill: Obviously I cannot answer the first question; it calls for statistical information. The question should be put on the order paper in the proper way, as every experienced hon. member knows.

The number of days of grace is left to the discretion of the wheat board and to the common sense of the elevator agents. It depends on the arrival of box cars. If seven box cars arrive at a station, let us say, this coming Sunday night, any Canadian with common sense would see that those box cars are made use of even if it takes until Monday or Tuesday to make delivery.

Mr. Argue: Is there under consideration—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Argue: —a 14-day period of grace as we have had on other occasions?

Mr. Churchill: The wheat board will conduct itself in the same way this year as it has done in other years, to the satisfaction of the farmers of western Canada.

Mr. Argue: That is exactly what we are afraid of.

Mr. Churchill: You do not like the wheat board?

Mr. Argue: We do not like what is being done right now.

Mr. Ricard: Do you like yourself?

Mr. E. W. Brunsdon (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question may I ask the minister whether he has knowledge of any extensive complaints from western Canada with respect to both quotas and box cars? My own experience is that I have none.

[Mr. Argue.]

Mr. Churchill: There have been no extensive complaints. My own experience over the last three years has been that at the conclusion of each crop year messages are received with regard to box cars. I have had only a few of those this year. Immediately the wheat board has been contacted. They in turn get in touch with the railway companies, who have responded very quickly to these requests.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek still some point that is not clear even after this rather extensive inquiry?

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the minister if the 128 points still on 6-bushel quota are points that in past years have also been on low quota.

Mr. Argue: They are.

Mr. Churchill: I doubt that very much, Mr. Speaker, but I will obtain the information for the hon. gentleman. These questions may be asked tomorrow, Friday, Saturday and Monday before the end of the crop year, and the information will be available.

TRANSPORT**YARMOUTH-BAR HARBOR FERRY—PROPOSED STRIKE OF CREW AND PERSONNEL**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Gloucester inquired regarding the dispute respecting the unlicensed personnel of the *M.V. Bluenose*. I might also say that the hard-working and very able hon. member for Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare has shown great interest in this matter and spoke about it to both the Minister of Labour and myself as long ago as Friday. He has shown a keen interest in this whole matter.

As the house knows, the management and operation of the *Bluenose* is entrusted to the C.N.R. I have been in touch with the management, and am advised that the union representing unlicensed personnel on the ship has given notice that such employees will withdraw from service on August 5. Although the union has not requested a meeting since issuance of the report of the board of conciliation on June 23, the management state that they stand ready to meet the union at any time.

PUBLIC SERVICE**MONTREAL—COMPLAINT OF MEAT INSPECTORS WITH RESPECT TO OVERTIME PAY**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether