

Wheat—Interim Payments

was applied for there on May 6, but to date nothing has been done. Has the minister any information in that regard?

Hon. N. A. McLARTY (Minister of Labour): I have some information on that matter. The leader of the opposition (Mr. Hanson) was kind enough to notify me that on the third reading of the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act he would ask some questions in that connection, and I have had a report prepared. In view of the prior request of the leader of the opposition, I think it would be only fair to answer at that time.

WHEAT

INQUIRY AS TO INTERIM PAYMENTS ON 1939 CROP

On the orders of the day:

Mr. ROBERT FAIR (Battle River): On other occasions I have asked the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. MacKinnon) when we may expect information in connection with an interim payment on the 1939 wheat crop. Can the minister tell us something about that to-day? Those of us who represent wheat growers are flooded with letters telling us of the need of this payment.

Hon. J. A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I know of no intention on the part of the wheat board to make an interim payment until and if there is money available for that purpose. The question of making provision for an interim payment, when the money is available, is under consideration at present.

RADIO BROADCASTING

NEWS SERVICES—CANCELLATION OF TRANS-RADIO PERMIT AS OF JULY 1

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. C. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): I wish to ask the government a question. The hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar (Mr. Coldwell) sent notice of the question to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Howe). Since the minister is not in his place, I will put the question and leave it as a notice. Has the government reconsidered the case of Trans-Radio press service? If not, has it made careful inquiry into its credentials, or in the alternative, is the board of governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reconsidering the matter? If so, will the decision of the board be announced immediately in order that no injustice or misunderstanding may arise concerning this matter?

Right Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Justice): I shall see that the Minister of Transport gives an answer to my hon. friend.

[Mr. Gillis.]

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

ALLEVIATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS—UNDERTAKINGS IN GENERAL INTEREST AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PROVINCES

Hon. N. A. McLARTY (Minister of Labour) moved the third reading of Bill No. 42, to assist in the alleviation of unemployment and agricultural distress.

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): As has already been intimated by the Minister of Labour, there is a matter which I desire to discuss on this third reading, and which I hope may be considered pertinent, because if I do not get an opportunity to do it now I do not know when the occasion may arise again.

I am familiar in a degree with the situation existing in Pictou, Nova Scotia, a county that was settled by some of the finest stock that ever entered Canada. I bow to the assistant clerk, because he is directly descended from that gallant band who came over to Canada in the *Hector*. During the course of my educational career in Nova Scotia nearly half a century ago, I learned that if you came over in the *Hector* you were of the very élite. If I had not learned it then I should have learned it in this house some years later when this house, in 1923, gave a grant for the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the *Hector*. In other words, what the *Mayflower* is to New England the *Hector* was to the province of Nova Scotia and the county of Pictou.

Primarily an agricultural section, in course of time through the initiative of two or three or four very gallant Scotsmen it became more or less an industrial centre, due, I think, largely to the discovery there of coal of good quality. As a result of the initiative of these men, who grew into importance in Nova Scotia, that portion of the province became an iron and steel centre. To-day there is situated in that country, at Trenton and elsewhere, plants comparable, I believe, with anything that may be found even in central Canada for the manufacture of certain types of munitions and other commodities that might be very useful at this time in connection with Canada's war effort. During the last war the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, then managed by my old friend who was for ten years a valuable member of this house and who is now resting on his laurels in the other chamber, manufactured no less than 25,000,000 shells for the Imperial Munitions Board. Since we came here he has been urging me, and I have been urging the Minister of Munitions and Supply (Mr. Howe) to do something to